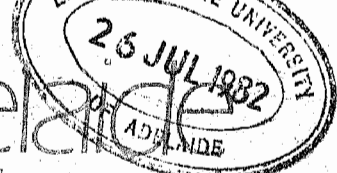


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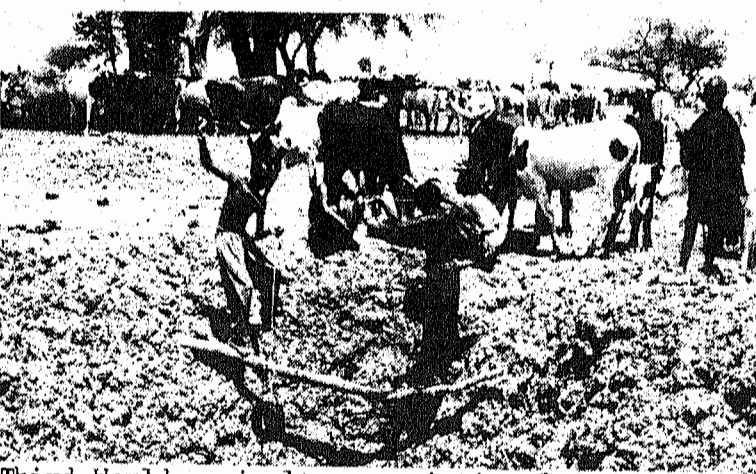


On dit

Adelaide University Student Weekly

Monday July 12, 1982 Vol 50 Nr 13

Multi-nationals Unload Banned Chemicals in Aust.



Third World agriculture - victim of multinational exploitation

Like many other Third World countries, Australia has become a dumping ground for pesticides banned in the USA, according to consumer spokesperson, Kate Short.

"Australia is similar to Third World countries in that our economy is dominated and controlled by foreign-owned multinationals, and the lack of regulation has enabled them to offload chemical pesticides restricted as banned by the American Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)," she said.

Mr Short, of the Australian Consumers' Association, was speaking at the State Administration Building Theatre on Tuesday night after the showing of a sixty

minute film, *Pesticides: For Export Only!*

She said that the slackness of Australian regulations, both at the Federal and State level, was shown by the fact that there are fifteen hazardous pesticides, banned by the EPA, that are in common use in Australia, including 245-T. There is much evidence to suggest that 245-T causes miscarriages, sterility and cancer.

"We need to work for much stricter regulations on the use of pesticides and for the gradual changeover to more environmental control of pests, such as biological controls," she said.

"Multinationals are unscrupulous and have no morality. The world is their market, so they can sell and dump pesticides banned in industrialised countries to Third World nations, where many of the local departments of agriculture are virtually their subsidiary.

"As they have a contracting market in the Western World due to increased consumer knowledge, they need to expand elsewhere, as can be seen in the massive advertising campaigns carried out by multinationals in Third World countries."

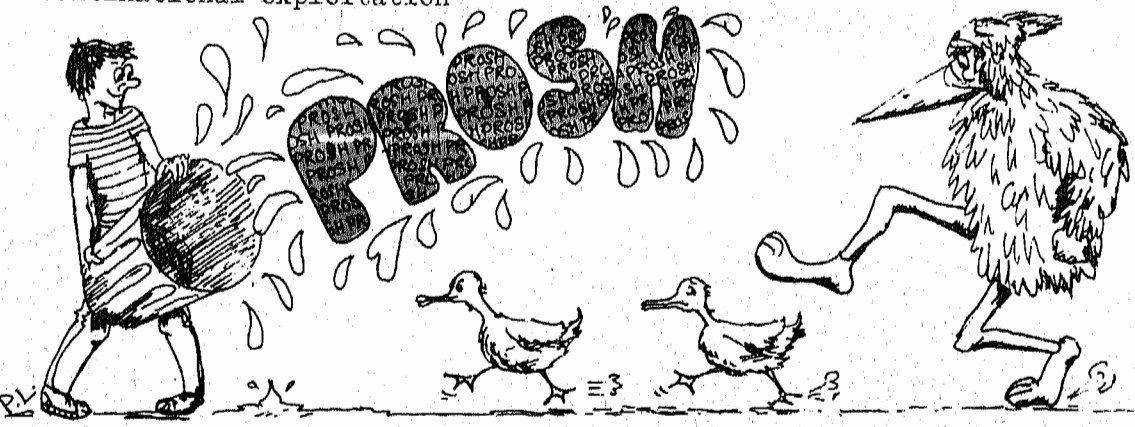
Ms Short pointed out that as well as the pesticides on the banned list, there are now a large number of chemicals, previously considered safe, which are under re-investigation.

She also claimed that at least one of the major testing laboratories in the USA, whose results are used by the EPA, had been exposed as a fraud, and had been carrying out bogus tests.

The film spoke of the "circle of poison", with the banned chemicals affecting not only the workers who handled the pesticides or worked in harvesting, but also consumers in Third World countries, and American consumers who were taking in unsafe quantities of pesticides in food imports from Third World countries.

The United Nations-affiliated non-government organisation, Environment Liaison Centre in Kenya, estimates that about 30-40,000 people die of pesticide poisoning each year, and nearly 75% of these deaths occur in Third World countries.

One problem the film discussed was the "overkill" of pesticide use in Third World Countries. The massive over-use of pesticides has led in many instances to insect pests building up resistances to the pesticides. — Andrew Foley



returns with a vengeance

this week

PAGE 9

Central America: This week a four page feature focusses on Central America. *Rentrey Clarke* relates his personal experiences in Nicaragua and *Marg McHugh* outlines the role of women in the El Salvador revolution.



PAGE 14

Queensland Land Rights: The Brisbane Commonwealth Games approach and Aboriginal land rights are an unresolved issue. *Sarah Alpers* explains.

PAGE 16

Prosh: This year Prosh returns wholesale to the past. A revival of the Procession and a *Brideshead Revisited* Ball on the Saturday night.



PAGE 20

Prosh Charities: Prosh will benefit the Aboriginal Community College and Youthlink, the telephone counselling service.



Revolution in Central America

Monday July 12 1982
Volume 50 Number 13

The Union Bar Hits Hard Times

The Union Bar always was a bit of a tawdry student dive but it was a place with atmosphere. It always was crowded to the hilt on Friday afternoons but that's par for the course for a university bar and nobody minded much.

There were still those spring and autumn afternoons when you could sit on the balcony overlooking the Torrens and steadily get sloshed and winter evenings when the Bar was quiet and a quiet alcove

was a great place to drink with friends.

That's all in the past. There's a difference between a dive and a squalid hole and the Union Bar is slowly becoming a hole.

First it was the electronic games (introduced in 1980) which brought an incessant electronic background racket.

Then the furniture started to go to pieces. Now the upholstery in the alcoves is disintegrating into lumps of foam and the smell of stale beer wafts out of the carpet.

Now on midweek nights the Bar is almost empty. The scene is dominated by the giant video system pumping out sound into nothingness which destroys any lingering attraction the place might have as somewhere for a quite drink and talk.

The Catering Department should get the

place in hand immediately.

Regional Paper

Next week 'On dit' joins with SAIT's 'Ego', the Flinders Uni. 'Empire Times' and the papers from SACAE campuses to produce the inaugural issue of 'SATIRE' — the South Australian Tertiary Institution's Regional Express.

It coincides with the AUS Loans Week which is appropriate and will present news from all campuses as well as give a rundown of what the student loans scheme is all about.

So next week 'On dit' defers to 'SATIRE'. You'll find it where you usually pick up 'On dit'.

NOTICES

China Society

The first inaugural meeting of the Adelaide University China Society will be held Monday, July 19th at 7 pm in Room 533 in the Centre for Asian Studies, Oliphant Wing of the Physics Building.

Discussion and planning of future activities, election of officers, will take place. Refreshments and entertainment will be provided. Enquiries should be directed to the Centre for Asian Studies. All welcome.

History Club Seminar Employment Possibilities for History Graduates

Thursday 15th July at 7.30 pm
History Common Room
4th Floor, Napier Building

Wed. July 14th —

Bastille Day Celebrations

"Tour de l'universite" bike race

Starting from Ligertwood (Law) Building at 1.15pm. Prizes for the first over the finish line and the most original entrant. *Vive la revolution!*

— presented by the History Club

Politics Society Forum

US Policy Toward Latin America
The speaker will be Brian Pollitt, recently returned from Nicaragua.
Time: Monday 12th July at 7.30 pm
Venue: History/Politics Common Room (4th Floor, Napier Building).
All welcome.

Healing Seminar

AU Metaphysics Society will be holding a seminar on Healing and Alternative Medicine in the Little Cinema at 7.30. \$1 non-members, 50¢ members. Refreshments provided.

Dianne McCann, a rebirth therapist, will be speaking on the various types of healing — psychic healing, spiritual healing, colour therapy, dietary therapy, acupuncture, etc. Everyone welcome.

Adelaide Uni. Boat Club AGM

The 101st Annual General Meeting of the Adelaide University Boat Club will be held at the Boat Club on Wednesday, 14th July, at 8.00 pm. All members are invited to attend.

AUSQUAD

Tuesday, July 13th, 7.45 to 10.45 pm, a Square Dance will be held in the North-South Dining Rooms (Level 4, Union Building). All welcome.

On-campus Child Care

Parents interested in on-campus child-care during lecture times please contact Yvonne Madon, or Monica Clements via the Women on Campus pigeon hole in the Student Activities Office, north-east corner of the Cloisters.

Philosophy Club Meeting

by Professor Richard Rorty
(Princeton University)

Professor Rorty is author of many articles in the philosophy of mind and epistemology. His recent book, *Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature* is a radical critique of developments in epistemology. He rejects representative realism, the idea that knowledge consists in correspondence between representations in the mind and external reality, and the aspiration of philosophers to set universal standards of rationality and objectivity.

7.45 pm, Monday July 12th

The Chapel
Level 2, Lady Symon Building
All welcome

The film *On Sacred Ground*, which is concerned with Aboriginal land rights, will now be shown **Tuesday 13th July, between 12.00 and 1.00 in Theatre L16, Napier Building.** Admission free

AU CANE

Adelaide Uni. Campaign Against Nuclear Energy are holding a meeting at 1.00, Thursday 15th July in Meeting Room 1, Level 5, Union Building.

We are planning action — poetry reading and slideshowing — for Hiroshima Day.

We are also building a float for Prosh — so all you anti-nukes with creative ability, come and show your faces.

Union Activities This Week

Monday July 12th

1pm Kinetic Energy Dance Co. performance in Union Cloisters (Mayo Refec. if wet weather).

1pm 1981 SA Football Grand Final replay on videorecorder in the Bar. Port vs Glenelg.

Other videorecorder film and sports replays advertised on the notice board in the Bar will be held Wednesday and Thursday, 5 pm, and 1 pm Thursdays.

Friday July 16th

1pm Concert in the Bar featuring *Go Circus* from Melbourne.

8.30pm Free entertainment for AU students in the Union Bar. \$1 door charge for visitors.

Saturday July 17th

8pm Literary Society Bar Night featuring *Los Tros Ringbarkus*, outrageous comedy duo from Melbourne plus *Detente* and *Die Dancing Bears*. AU students \$2.50, visitors \$3.50.

Coming Entertainment

Triffids from Perth/Sydney.

No Fixed Address

Speedboat

Young Homebuyers from Melbourne

Serious Young Insects

Quantum Leaps

Women's Art Show

July 16 - August 22

The Women's Art Movement in Adelaide is producing a national women's art show spectacular.

Quantum Leaps will be saturated with women's art and artists.

July 16:

Opening Dance, Norwood Town Hall with Subtonix and Hotspots. \$5, \$3.

July 16 - August 22:

Documentation and Information, Women's Art Movement

July 16 - August 22:

Visual Arts — Fabrics/Quilts/Video, Festival Centre Gallery

July 12 - August 18:

Visual Arts — Painting/Printmaking/Photography, Adelaide Uni. Gallery

July 16 - August 22:

Performance Art/Installation Art/Documentation, Experimental Art Foundation

August 18 - 22:

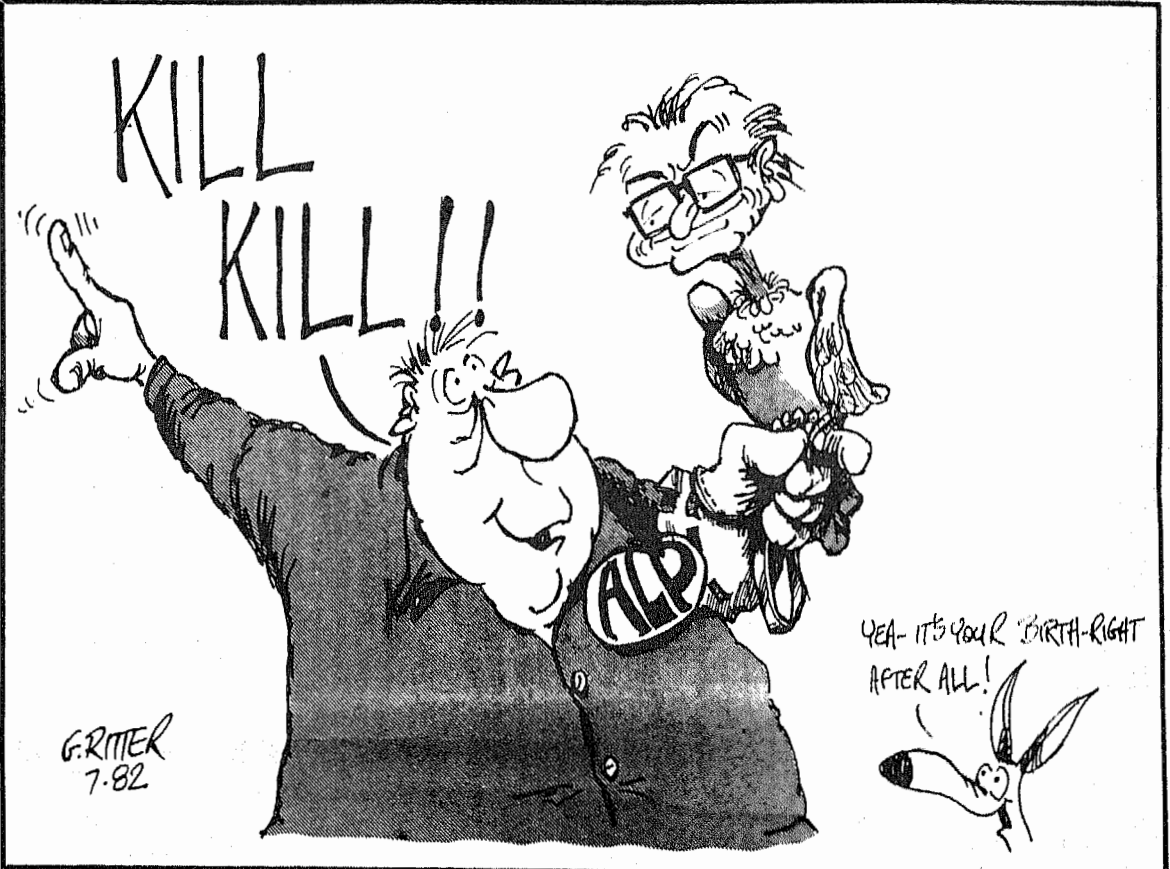
Cabaret — Theatre and Performance, Red Shed.

Seminars and Workshops:

There will be a series of seminars and workshops at the SACAE Gallery and the Adelaide University Observatory throughout the five weeks.

Topics include: *Semiotics, Sex and Advertising and Past Works — Performance Art.*

Programmes are available at the Women's Art Movement, 233 Rundle Street, Adelaide. Phone 223 1809.



Elections

The following nominations were received for positions in the Students' Association and Union Council at the close of nominations at 4pm on Thursday July 8. The elections for these positions will be held from July 26-30.

Students' Association Positions

President

G. Barbaro; I.R. Colgrave; G.D. Coppolla; D.J. Crowe; I.L. Griscit; J.M. Keen; S.P. Micallef; H.M. Steele; A.J.B. Ward; J. Wurm.

Education Vice President

L. Kennewell

AUS Secretary

M. Clements

Finance and Administration Officer

E. Greenaway

Executive Members (5)

S. Alpers; D. Clements; A. Fairley; N. Lippett; C. Sen.

AUS Regional Conference (8)

M. Clements; A. Fairley; L. Gale; L. Kennewell; P. Klaric; K. McAlpine; N. Runjajic; J. Wurm

AUS Annual Council (7)

J.L. Ballantyne, M. Clements; A. Cronin; G.D. Edmonds-Wilson; A. Fairley; J. Gaffey; L. Gale; L. Kennewell; P. Klaric; P. Marshall; N. Runjajic; J. Wurm.

'On dit' Editor

R.A. Elliott and J.A. Hein; A. Foley and J. Lyons-Reid; D. Mussared and J. Lans.

Student Radio Co-director (2)

A. Wheaton, M. Nixon

Women's Officer

Y. Madon

Social Action Committee (4)

P. Crowley; S. Derkatch; M. Heard, A.M. Karolyczuk; W. Morton

Education Action Committee (5)

I. Condon; D. Luxton; S.R. McDonald; S. Magarey; J. Parham.

'Bread and Circuses' Editor

Braddon Giles; Paul Klaric; and

Are you a frustrated news hound? Join the 'On dit' News Team.

'On dit' has extended its news coverage to provide an alternative view of Adelaide. We need a large team of reporters prepared to learn the fundamentals of news gathering. Professional journalists will provide advice and instruction on all aspects of reporting. Leave your name in the 'On dit' office or ring 'On dit', 223 2685.

"Que?"

Bread and Circuses editors Dennis Medlow and Jenny Hein still don't know the identity of the conspirators who produced the two hundred pirate editions of Bread and Circuses two weeks ago.

Lumen, the University's official journal, is packed full of rivetting reading like commemoration addresses and electricity consumption graphs. But now this journal of light is to be lightened with social pages.

This explains why Michael O'Brien from the university's Information Office was at the opening of the Law Revue *McMillhouse and Wife* last Thursday. Unfortunately no university bigwigs — let alone any who were maliciously sent up in that production — arrived to be photographed.

Michael O'Brien, a former Labor Club president, was recently appointed to the board of *The Herald*, the SA Labor Party newspaper.

One wonders what he has in store for it.

Greg McKay; David West.

Union Council (18)

M. Reid; P. Klaric; J. Wurm; A. Fairley; D. Brummitt; P. Taylor; L. Gale; K. McAlpine; A. Frost; P. Marshall; P. Henshall; H. Thornton; P. Zelany; S. Derkatch; R. Spenser; M. O'Leary; M. Hough; S. Munchenberg; R. Wilson; M. Clayer; G.

Edmonds-Wilson; K. Phelan; H. Lineage; E. Greenway; R. Smith; D. Watson; P. Maddern; R. Brown; D. Clements; M. Deller; N. Dobson; S. Micallef; C. Harford; A-M. Karolyczuk; N. Runjajic; M. Faulkner; W. Wills; N. Lippett.

Activities Council (5)

M. Storer (elected).

PRODUCTION

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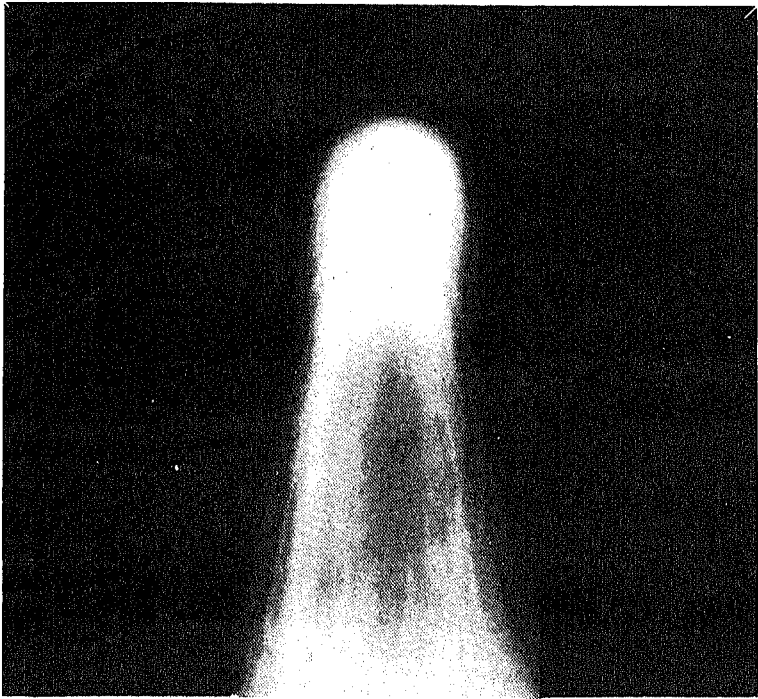
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Halley's Comet Favours SA

Organizers of Australia's bicentennial celebrations are lamenting the poor timing of Halley's Comet. The comet is due to pass earth again in 1986 — two years before

It last appeared in our skies in 1910.

In their newsletter the Australian Bicentennial Authority ask "Can anyone slow down Halley's Comet ... Think what we would save in fireworks!"

But 1986 is the 150th anniversary of South Australia's

foundings and if we show some initiative the comet's passage may not be entirely wasted.

Questions have been asked in Parliament. Anne Levy, Labor MLC, asked the government whether the sesquicentenary organizers have any plans to incorporate Halley's Comet into South Australia's celebrations. A reply is expected shortly.

Bureaucrats Bungle Exam Marks

A New South Wales secondary school student has good reason to complain about bureaucratic inefficiency.

Despina Papadakis, 19, of Forestville, was one of several Higher School Certificate students whose 1981 examination results were calculated incorrectly.

Miss Papadakis received seven fewer points than she should have and would probably have gained entrance to teachers' college on her correct marks. But the errors weren't confirmed until well after tertiary institutions had filled their quotas and she is repeating the HSC.

Now Miss Papadakis is the victim of a second case of "human error".

She has been sent the wrong material to study for this year's Modern Greek examination. Her school does not have the teachers to offer Greek and she takes the subject by correspondence through the College of External Studies. Miss Papadakis says that it was only by chance that she discovered recently that the College had sent her the wrong material.



Despina Papadakis

A spokesperson for the Department of Technical and Further Education confirmed the mistake and said that it was "a human error" that shouldn't have occurred.

— On dit Staff

Animals Have Rights -Philosophy Prof

I did not own pets as a child, I have not wanted to own pets and I still don't own a pet, said philosopher Peter Singer in a frank admission recently.

Professor Singer of Monash University, Melbourne, visited Adelaide on July 3 and 4 to promote Animal Liberation, the movement for which he has created the philosophical foundations.

In the words of one Adelaide philosopher, Professor Singer is "well-known, indeed notorious" among philosophers for propounding the view that animals have rights which are in many respects equivalent to human rights.

Animal Liberationists are tagged as "animal lovers", Professor Singer complained at a public meeting held on Sunday July 4 in the Theosophical Society Hall in King William Street. He is the author of *Animal Liberation*, a book which has been widely recognized in Australia and overseas.

Concern for animals is based at an emotional level, he says. But animal liberation goes further than this.

"The press term animal lover is

a putdown akin to nigger lover."

It denotes some "warped kind of emotional love," he says.

Professor Singer makes the point that concern for blacks is based upon principles of morality and equality. The same applies to concern for animals, he says.

"You don't have to feel emotionally deep about animals to believe this is an important issue."

"The fact that humans are equal is a moral principle. Considerations of race or sex are irrelevant.

"Why should the principle of equality hold only for humans? You can compare a grossly defective human being with a pig or a dog.

"The fact that mentally handicapped humans and animals of similar mental capacity are treated differently Professor Singer describes as "a prejudice or bias quite akin to racism."

"It is absurd to say that animals have the right to vote. But there is a basic sense in which they are

equal."

Animal Lib. Militancy

In his address titled *Animal Liberation in the 80's*, Professor Singer focussed upon the new militancy in animal rights groups.

Full page advertisements appeared in the *New York Times* recently asking the cosmetics corporation Revlon how many rabbits it had blinded in the past year, said Professor Singer.

Revlon is now spending \$750,000 to find an alternative to the Dray's eye test performed on rabbits.

In the Dray's test rabbits are held in boxes with head exposed. The substance is deposited in the eye.

The rabbits are unable to scratch at the eye, he said.

"After 24, 48 or 72 hours the eyeball is examined and compared to standard charts which show the eyeball in various stages of disintegration."

The substances are for cosmetic use and are non-essential, said Singer.

"It is a clear example of specicism. They satisfy a trivial need of human beings."

— Tim Dodd



Animal Liberation protest.

Animal Libbers Bare Their Teeth

Animal Liberation in SA took a new turn last Tuesday when fifteen protesters blocked the loading of the live sheep carrying ship 'Procyon' at Port Adelaide.

It was Animal Liberation's first protest demonstration in this state.

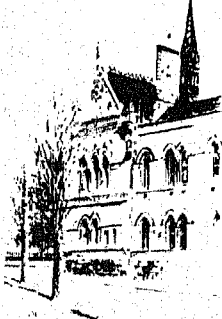
"We intend to arrange peaceful demonstrations in the future," said Animal Liberation member, Mr George Kolyani. "That is the only way to attract the attention of the media."

Mr Kolyani is a senior lecturer in electrical engineering at Adelaide University.

Last Tuesday's protest was highlighted on the front page of *The Advertiser*. Mr Kolyani commented that setting up information booths on three occasions in Rundle Mall had done little to publicise Animal Lib.

Animal Liberation has recently been lobbying political parties on their policies concerning the humane treatment of animals.

— Tim Dodd



**FOUNDATION LECTURE SERIES
INAUGURAL ADDRESS**
Multicultural Australia in 1988
by John Menadue

Secretary, Department of Immigration & Ethnic Affairs and former Australian Ambassador to Japan.

1.10 p.m. Monday 19 July
Bonython Hall

This is a free public lecture series on important national topics designed to be of interest to the South Australian community.

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President Speaks

Academics Smash Student Reps

Ahh well, no one can say that we didn't try. I mean, just because most other universities have compulsory student reps on every departmental committee doesn't mean that we have to, does it? Well, according to the majority of academic staff it doesn't.

Last week the Education Committee of the university rejected such a proposal. This committee is made up from the heads of all the departments, the deans of all faculties, a number of other academic staff members, and eleven students (seven undergraduates, four post-graduates). In all, the committee totals about 130 members.

With this in mind it was with some trepidation that we put our case to the committee. After all, the compulsory inclusion of student reps on each departmental committee was bound to upset the more reactionary members of the Education Committee. And what with students being outnumbered by a ratio of 12:1, it would need a large amount of staff support to get through. Still, we gave it our best shot ...

There were a number of arguments against the proposal from academics, all of which were easily refutable, but due to the fact that we were only allowed to speak once on the topic, we could not effectively put our views. The main instigators in smashing the proposal were the Staff Association President, Professor Stevens (German Department), his sidekick Mr Keeler (Law) and Professor Thonard (Dentistry).

Professor Stevens proved at the meeting what a massive weight he carries. When he sang the staff tune almost everybody danced. Side by side, he and Keeler resembled a Laurel and Hardy duo; and believe me, what they had to say was just as laughable. That is, if the implications were not so serious.

For example, they said that students were not interested in this sort of representation, so the proposal was meaningless. Yet, compare this with an interesting fact. That is, that while the Education Committee has about 110 academic staff members, only 29 were there at the meeting. Of the eleven student members, only one was missing. Also, the fact that a GSM supported this concept unanimously was suitably ignored.

Also, they claimed that those students who went on departmental committees were not truly representative of student opinion. We gave assurances that we would give constant feedback to students. Not acceptable, I'm afraid. Amazingly and hypocritically, the committee then refused permission for us to take a name count of those voting against student reps to be published in *On dit* (one of the motions passed at the GSM).

And so, as the sun set over the committee room, academics crawled back into their Ivory Towers, content with the fact that students will still be unable to penetrate departments and contribute ideas, and safe in the knowledge that they can hide behind their decisions and not allow people to know just how reactionary they are.

— Paul Kiaric
SAUA President

Brass Orchids



by David Mussared

Classic Quotes No. 2

"Die, my dear doctor! That's the last thing I shall do!"

— last words of Lord Palmerston, 1865.

The ultra-conservative British quarterly publication *This England* is pushing its anti-metrication campaign way beyond the limits of sanity. For several years this geriatric glossy has been printing virulent editorial condemnations of the introduction of the metric system as an attack on England's sacred traditions.

In trying to prevent the "metricators" from forcing their alien system upon us, *This England* has taken to presenting a "Silver Crusader's Cross" to those brave patriots who daily defy the new laws by continuing to use the imperial system. The editor describes the metric system as being "founded in the chaos of the French Revolution" and warns that "a future generation of school-children could be taught militant atheism — communism — and they would be completely indoctrinated."

In the spring issue of 1982 the editor has even continued this line of argument to claim that "Much of the damage to Britain's economy can be laid at the door of those ... who lauded the benefits available to us all if only we would ditch our traditional Imperial system and take up metric."



That bastion of SA conservatism, the *Stock Journal*, last week made an editorial threat reflecting the growing rift between the Liberal and National Country Parties. The editor promises an extremely close result in the next SA election which could leave the NCP in a powerful position to use their traditional 'numbers' leverage on a future Liberal government.

The editorial goes on to warn Premier Tonkin that "for the sake of his political future" he should not make "the grave mistake of being assured of the farmer vote, no matter what".

It seems that, like Icarus, Tonkin's flight of fancy has reached such heights that his right wing is falling away. He can only hope that hot air and the natural buoyancy of an experienced politician will keep his head amongst the clouds.

Appearing in the latest issue of *Australian Shooters' Journal* is a form-letter authorised by the Safari Club International in protest against the intended federal government legislation to strengthen controls on international trade in wild life.

The political nature of the Safari Club bears comparison with its US counterpart — the powerful and extremely right-wing American Gun Lobby, whose continual activity is largely responsible for the unwillingness of American governments to place controls over the ownership and availability of small-arms.

Perhaps their attitude is best expressed by Pat Browne in his back page column in the *Shooters Journal* entitled "Gun Talk". He states that "Over many years I have found hunters, and I mean genuine hunters, to be very honest people. They are more in tune with what this world is all about."



You could be forgiven for thinking that the old Fiat 500 'bubblecar' was little more than a mechanised matchbox, but the proposed Fiat VSS promises to attract even closer comparison to a clockwork dinky-toy. The long-established Italian car manufacturing firm is designing a "plastic car" which will be under mass production by 1990 says *Wheels* magazine's March edition.

The plastic panelling will have an expected life-span of over twenty years and will begin to appear on Fiats and Lancias over the next few years. Many other manufacturers are either overtly or covertly following Fiat's lead, claims the article, which describes the process as "a new way of making cars" rather than another "car of the future" gimmick.

There is a measurable decrease in the American suicide rate prior to any given presidential election, claims Myron Boor, a psychiatrist at the Rhode Island Hospital in the USA. Boor's research has revealed a 1.3 percent drop in the general suicide rate and a 0.6 percent fall in deaths related to accident and disease in the period immediately before a federal election.

The results of his research, cited in the May issue of *Omni*, have led Boor to the conclusion that the decrease can be traced to the enhanced "sense of social responsibility fostered by the impending elections". He describes his findings as "significant", but it is difficult to envisage a voter with any 'sense of social responsibility' who would

wish to prolong life in order to perpetuate the electoral extravaganzas which have produced victory for Ronald Reagan and his predecessors.

Rumour has it that SA's Minister for Health has a new driver for her government car following some unpleasantities arising from her personal habits. Apparently the driver objected to Mrs Adamson's practice of leaving used tissues in the glove-box and installed a plastic bag for the purpose. Mrs Adamson allegedly scorned this innovation and continued to use the glove box despite the driver's insistence that the bag was the proper receptacle; and there was a reshuffle of staff which led to the driver being transferred. Arguably the logical conclusion to a snotty problem.



Minister for Health,
Jennifer Adamson

Australia could be about to witness the expansion of a recently formed male emancipist movement with its roots in the United States. 'Masculism' is seen by its advocates as being "the logical corollary of female emancipation" according to Ronald Conway in *The Bulletin* earlier this year.

The movement represents one of the few coherent protests against male-stereotyping and the "emotional poverty" of career-oriented men. It seeks to educate men to reject careerist social conditioning and learn to live as the emotionally liberated equals of women; and amid the stringent 'mateship' and 'poofter-bashing' rituals of Australian machoism, masculism is making a valid attempt to establish real emotional intimacy between men.

Perhaps last Tuesday's lunchtime film *Puberty Blues* best manifests the need for feminists to be reminded that often 'women hating' men are also reluctantly acting to the dictates of sex-role conditioning, and a touch of the masculist brush in the script writing for the "surfie guys" would not have gone astray.

The Words of the Prophets
"Paranoia is Total Awareness."
— painted on a wall in town.

BOOK SALE
UNION BOOKSHOP
(LEVEL FOUR ANNEXE)
COMMENCING JULY 12th
GENUINE REDUCTIONS FROM ALL AREAS

'Intelligent' Robots -they're catching us

In some Japanese plants workers have given robots names and they have become members of the company union, according to Mr Ken Myer in a seminar he gave at the SAIT on Wednesday morning.

Mr Myer, a semi-retired retail executive, related his experiences as a participant in the Cambridge Corporation's Quality Control and Robotics course in Japan earlier this year.

He said that robots were now being produced which were a further two major stages of sophistication beyond the 'play-back' robots often shown spot-welding or spray-painting car bodies on television programmes about industrial technology.

The loss of blue-collar jobs to robots — at an average rate of five jobs per robot — will be balanced by a proportional rise in the number of white-collar positions, claimed Mr Myer. He also said that a decrease in working hours for all workers was "highly desirable" and a probable result of the new technology.

The most immediate and obvious use for robots is in the areas where work is "dirty, dangerous or monotonous". Mr Myer

Myer said. The Japanese government has a little publicised policy of subsidising robots used for dirty or dangerous work.

Japan is already experiencing the introduction of robotics to small scale industry where there are no company unions or customs of life-long employment to protect employees from retrenchment. Mr Myer claimed that a declining population growth, an increase in the average age and hence white-collar ambitions of the Japanese working class, and the reduction of working hours, will offset this problem.

— David Mussared



Spot the difference — are they private enterprise or public sector sheep?

Public Service Sheep to be Seconded

Among the public servants being affected by the Fraser Government's razor gang policies, are four thousand sheep.

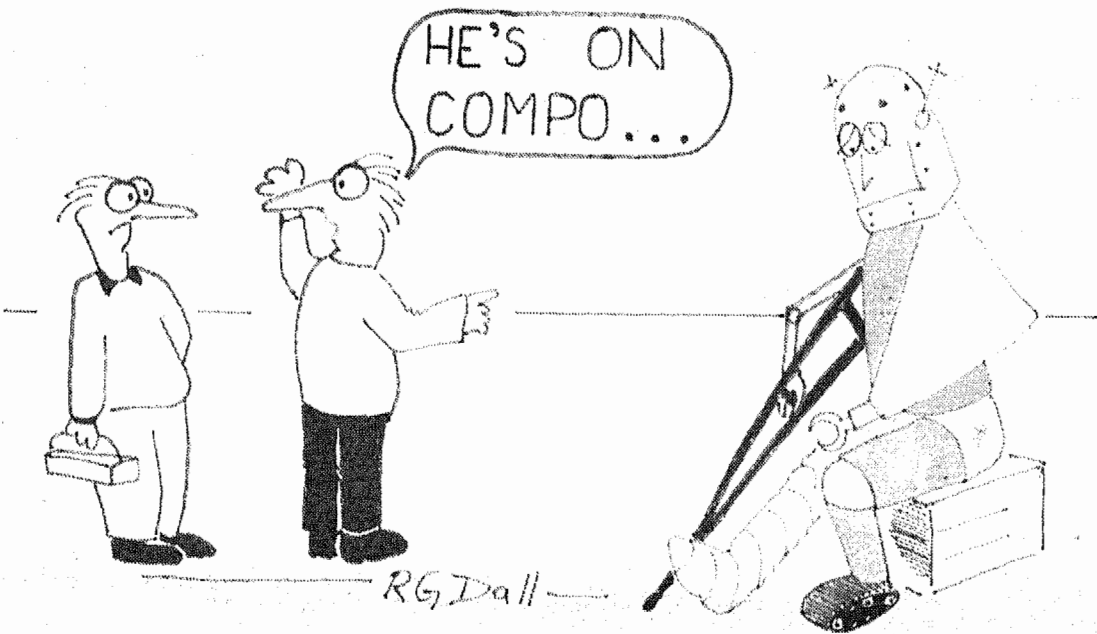
The government-owned sheep have grazed among the 1,000 hectares of paddocks at the Defence Research Centre, Salisbury, since the Second World War.

But now they are to be sold off and replaced by private sector sheep.

The Department of Defence Support has decided to call for tenders for running sheep on the land. A spokesperson said that the decision was made in view of government policy that the public service be divested of functions that private enterprise can perform.

"We have looked closely at whether to continue sheep-grazing activities and have decided that it is beneficial to pass it out to private enterprise," he said.

— On dit Staff



The most sophisticated development in the field is the new Intelligent Types, Five Human Senses industrial robot. The prototypes of these are already being put through their paces in Japan. Mr Myer's talk included a film depicting one of the Human Senses robots assembling a vacuum cleaner from basic components, using its senses to 'feel out' the correct positioning of the various parts.

stated that in these capacities the introduction of robots has been supported by the workers they are replacing.

The important factor in the introduction of robots to production lines and other more complicated manufacturing techniques from a managerial point of view, is their rapidly declining relative cost. Robots currently under production cost between \$A7,000 and \$A80,000 per unit, Mr

Multi-cultural TV for Christmas

South Australia may see multicultural television before Christmas if the Federal Government allocates sufficient funds in the August Federal Budget. This was stated by the chairman of the United Ethnic Communities (UEC) of South Australia, Mr M. Dassic, at a public meeting at Norwood Town Hall on Sunday July 4th.

It would cost approximately \$700,000 to establish an ethnic channel and \$100,000 yearly to maintain it, on UEC figures.

A multicultural channel would benefit not only the ethnic community but the general public, according to the UEC. This has been seen in the quality, diversity and popularity of ethnic television in Sydney and Melbourne.

Migrants have contributed immeasurably to the economic development of Australia and now request support for their own cultural development in the founding of multicultural television in South Australia, said the UEC.

The UEC was formed to give ethnic communities a voice on the issue of multicultural television. It has since broadened its concerns to other ethnic issues.

In Canberra last Monday the ALP National Conference supported a proposal to extend multicultural television to all states.

A statement issued by Mr Murray Hill, the Minister Assisting the Premier in Ethnic Affairs on Thursday 1st July, has "reaffirmed" SA's Liberal government's call for the establishment



Murray Hill

of multicultural television in this state.

A Cabinet decision to request the extension of SBS Channel O/28 to include SA has been made. More succinctly put, the Liberals are claiming that they thought of it first.

— Debbie Kapellis
David Mussared

Terrorism Gave PLO High Profile -Mack

It was only when the Palestinian Liberation Organisation turned to terrorism that the world began to take them seriously, said Andrew Mack last Thursday.

Mr Mack, Senior Lecturer in Politics at Flinders University, was speaking to a lunchtime seminar on Lebanon, Israel and the Palestinians in the Union Cinema.

The PLO's successes in the past decade have been diplomatic and political successes not military successes, he told the seminar.

Mr Mack attributed this to the high profile which terrorism has given the PLO and the skill of PLO leader Yasser Arafat in turning military defeats into diplomatic victories.

Palestinians have come off worse in every encounter between Israelis and Palestinians, he said.

Mack strongly defended the use of terrorism by the PLO. Dramatic and appalling acts had gained them notoriety he admitted. But he pictured the Palestinian-Israeli conflict as "indigenous third world people resisting colonising Europe".

The only plausible answer to the Palestinian problem was a negotiated two-state solution, he said.

"Pragmatic Palestinians realize that Palestinians and the whole Arab world cannot stop Israel." Mack believes that Israel and a Palestinian state can co-exist peacefully.

"Only a minority of Palestinians are 'rejectionists' who would use a Palestinian state as a springboard to attack Israel."

"Support for Israel has been dropping dramatically since the election of the Begin government in 1976, and the last invasion of

Lebanon in 1978. "Even Liberal Israelis are saying how can we avoid doing something about the Palestinian problem?"

The long dominant view in the US, that Israel was friend and ally in a strategic part of the world was slipping, he said.

The argument that Israel was a stable democracy not a "one bullet regime" has been countered.

The view of Secretary of Defense Weinberger is that American support for Israel has given the USSR a card of entry into a region where they would

not otherwise be welcome, says Mack.

He believes that only the US can pressure Israel to make concessions to the Palestinians.

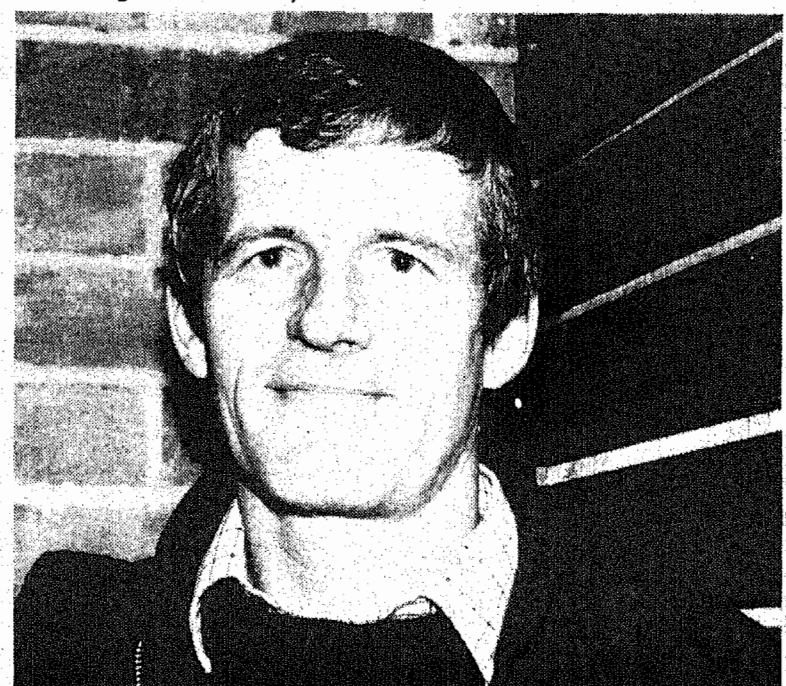
The other speaker at the seminar was Mike Khizam from the Left Coalition club.

"The Israel state is molded by a particular morality that might be right," he said.

Mike Khizam made three main points:

- Palestinian Arabs are the rightful owners of Palestine
- Israel is the dominant military power which has been and remains a threat to its neighbours.
- The Israeli state is guilty of the violation of human rights.

— Tim Dodd



Andrew Mack



The Franklin River—to be flooded.

Tas. Student Union Backs Franklin Dam

Students at the University of Tasmania were surprised recently when they learnt that their Union was an investor in the Hydro-Electric Commission.

The Hydro-Electric Commission is to build the dam that will flood the Franklin River in South-West Tasmania.

The Union's investment was such a well-kept secret that even its

Treasurer, a Labor Party member and anti-dams campaigner, didn't know about it.

Student politicians are red-faced and blame the Union's bureaucrats.

— 'On dit' staff

Letters

from p. 8

with tertiary education in Australia; i.e. what business of AUS is it to have anything to say on these issues, which have little to do with students, and nothing to do with Australian Tertiary Education.

Surely, in the current economic climate, AUS has a responsibility to concentrate all its resources on getting a better deal from governments and constructively criticizing education policies of political parties (of all persuasions), instead of wasting time, effort and our money on radical political and feminist views which are none of its business, and which severely lower its standing in the eyes of students, governments and the public, because these views are extremist and socially destructive. If AUS is to continue as a viable and legitimate student representative force, it must reform and act in the true and direct interests of its financial members, rather than the interests of its officials.

Yours sincerely,
David Robinson

No News is New News

Dear Editors,

Not having read *On dit* for a while, I feel compelled to comment, after glancing through the 'news' section of Issue 11. Although Michael Hall notes in Issue 12 that the mosquito repellent definitely wasn't news, it so happens that neither is the 'Storm in a Teacup Abates' article. The article claimed the discovery of a taste difference, depending on whether the milk is added first or last in a cup of tea.

One afternoon in 1919, the late R.A. Fisher drew a cup of tea for staff algologist Muriel Bristol. However, she demurred, telling Fisher that she preferred tea with the milk added to the cup first. Fisher didn't believe it made any difference, but she insisted and the staff called for a scientific test. Fisher then designed a proper clinical trial which led him to develop the analysis of variance and his classical book, *The Design of Experiments*. There is a taste difference, and he showed that the lady was able to distinguish it (*Amer. J. Clin. Nut.*, 35, 2, p. 255).

Nevertheless, flavour is a matter of personal preference and no one (dare I say

not even *On dit*) can tell me that the way I drink tea is wrong (i.e. any way so long as it is blonde with two lumps). As for 'news', I hope *On dit* will be as interested in my ideas on a new way of killing mosquitos (using *On dit* Issue 11) and a new taste difference I have discovered between tea made with Adelaide tap water and that with rain water!

Mark Divilo

'Illinformed' uranium assertions

Dear Chris and Tim,

As another former Labor Club president, I was horrified to read the ill-informed assertions of my "comrades" Connolly and Duffy in the article "Labor Uranium Rethink" (*On dit* No. 11).

Firstly, the ALP's uranium policy did not emerge suddenly in 1977 just because it was trendy, as our comrades seem to imply. The Whitlam Labor government was wary of uranium from the outset. Amongst other things, Whitlam, in his capacity as Minister for the Environment, commissioned the public inquiry into the Ranger uranium mine proposed in July 1975. The report from that wide ranging inquiry, headed by Justice Fox, provided a thorough examination of the world uranium industry and the situation in Australia. To forget that fact is distortion of history to say the least. Both the issue of mine head safety and disposal of wastes are dealt with flippantly and incorrectly. Even worse, our comrades attempt to use the comparison of fatality and injury rates in the coal mining industry as an argument that uranium is safe.

Comrades Duffy and Connolly assert that "the effects of radon gas are well understood" and supposedly well established. Perhaps they are not aware that the levels of exposure which are regarded as acceptable have consistently been reduced as more information has become available on its biological effects. The current standards used in Australia are those set by the National Health and Medical Research Council which are based on the 1977 International Commission on Radiological Protection recommendations. Since then evidence from the (American) National Institute of

Victor Fish Death Lead

Tests conducted by the Dept of Fisheries have established that the unexplained deaths of hundreds of fish in the River Hindmarsh near Victor Harbour was not caused by effluent as was previously supposed by local residents.

A statement issued by Chief Secretary John Olsen last month implies that the deaths were actually caused by the incoming tide.

The white deposit on the river banks which locals identified as effluent, was actually the bleached remains of algae poisoned by the salt water, he said.

As the algae dried the oxygen levels were rapidly depleted and the fish drowned. "Similar occurrences have been reported to the Department over the years," Mr Olsen said.

However the Department has not yet discovered the reasons for the deaths of fish and yabbies in the River Torrens on June 3 this year.

— David Mussared.

Wellwishes for WEL Birthday

Women's Electoral Lobby members past and present are invited to WEL's Tenth Birthday celebrations on 20th July at 5pm at the Women's Information Switchboard.

Founding members Deborah McCulloch and Dawn McMahon will be speaking during the evening on WEL's history and achievements in the past decade.

Since 1972 in all states of Australia, WEL has been seeking to change social attitudes and practices which discriminate against women. Areas of success include the formation of the

Shotgun Mystery

The means by which a shotgun was smuggled into Yatala Prison remains a mystery, according to Chief Secretary John Olsen in a statement issued last week.

The shotgun was used in an attack on an inmate, and the incident has prompted action by the Department of Correctional Services to improve perimeter security at the prison.

Mr Olsen stated that the new security measures would include hand-held metal detectors and later a metal-detector archway



John Olsen

will be constructed. However he declined to conjecture about how the weapon was smuggled past existing security measures and is awaiting the result of a police investigation before he will comment.

— David Mussared

Blacks March

Aboriginal people from the metropolitan area, Point McCleay, the north and the far north, and white supporters, marched from Victoria Square to the Elder Park rotunda last Friday morning.

The marchers were encouraged by the marshall to hold their banners high to show that it was National Aborigines Day. At the rotunda demonstrators called for the day to be made a national holiday.

It was pointed out that race horses were presently accorded a recognition denied Aborigines.

The difficulties weighing upon Aboriginal education and welfare housing were canvassed at the meeting.

The assembly of over three hundred persons dispersed amidst the broadcasting of arrangements for other gatherings, including National Aborigines Day 1983.

— David Clements

Occupational Safety and Health in 1980, suggests that those levels may present hazards up to four times greater than the original 1971 estimates.

The most astonishing section of Connolly and Duffy's article is their comments on waste disposal. On the one hand they speak of small quantities of dangerous wastes that are produced from the reprocessing stage. They then go on to discuss the Swedish system for waste disposal. This proposal is in fact no more than a technical example of disposal of un-reprocessed waste fuel. As the ALP members of the Select Committee on Uranium Resources in South Australia (including Norm Foster) pointed out in their dissenting report,

"It must be made absolutely clear that disposal (i.e. ultimate containment and burial of high level waste) is not taking place at present anywhere in the world on a commercial basis. Moreover, no commercial disposal will take place at least until the mid-1990s."

When discussing other methods of disposal such as SYNROC (not synrock as our comrades spell it) it is asserted that the waste problem is one that is on the verge of a permanent solution. The only method currently being used industrially to immobilise waste is the so-called vitrification process. Alternative forms under development which may prove superior, include vitro ceramics, porous glass, supercalclines and SYNROC (an abbreviation for synthetic rock, currently being researched at the Australian National University). As is pointed out in the International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation Report, issued by the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, 1980,

"Validation of the proposed technology for deep underground repositories will necessitate the actual construction and operation of such a repository."

In the meantime, there is an enormous amount of stored waste hanging around, readily available for the United States or Argentina or whoever else wants it.

Finally, I just cannot believe that anyone could seriously consider Australia in the 1980s as the potential "Saudi Arabia of uranium". Probably the best uranium market information readily available in the world is published in *NUEXCO*, the Journal of the Nuclear Exchange Corporation to service organisations involved in the nuclear industry. In a paper delivered by George White Jnr, Senior Vice President of *NUEXCO* in

March 1982, the current situation was stated thus,

"Australia is somewhat puzzling. Timely entry was hampered by political events. Once viewed as essential, Australian production is now seen as an interesting alternative. This factor, diversity, accounts for the sales made during the past few years at prices and under terms and conditions not otherwise competitive. Due to the Australian Government's announced floor price policy, further sales appear foreclosed at this time."

Unlike comrades Duffy and Connolly, along with the majority of rank and file of the ALP, I believe the most effective position on uranium is at the forefront of the world anti-nuclear movement.

Mandy Cornwall

Outdated, emotional arguments

Your uranium issue would have done Mr Murdoch proud. For a paper which constantly criticizes biased media reporting you have presented the uranium issue in a narrow-minded manner, emphasizing your lack of understanding of the issue. Why are you against presenting pro-uranium mining views, particularly when the information is so readily available to you?

Much of the material presented in that issue was based on attacks against the safety of nuclear energy. It stands, however, that nuclear energy is safer than most other forms of electrical energy production. For example, the US Council on Environmental Quality recently published figures comparing nuclear energy with coal fired power plants. If the US produced all its electricity from fossil fuel systems, 6,000 people, per year, would be killed from accidents and air pollution, while the use of nuclear systems would result in the deaths of 100 people (this figure includes expected reactor accidents and waste disposal). To mine the coal needed the Council estimates that on average 500 miners and 700 other persons would be killed by the mining and transportation of the coal. Mining and transporting the necessary uranium would cause the death of 28 uranium miners and

18 other persons on average every year. Even the use of expensive scrubbers on coal-fired power plants would save only about 2,000 lives per year, compared with the saving of 5,900 lives annually by using nuclear power.

The real point here is that people readily accept coal as a safe source of energy and not nuclear, whereas nuclear energy is indisputably and significantly safer.

As noted in your article *Labor Uranium Rethink*, "the problem of permanent waste disposal is on the verge of solution". In fact France and Sweden have commercial permanent waste disposal facilities under construction following the success of pilot programmes.

It is indeed a pity that your uranium issue was so prejudiced and drew on false and outdated emotional arguments to reinforce your predetermined narrow-minded views.

Yours faithfully,

P.D. Franzon

A. Hay

Adelaide University Pro Nuclear Association

[This is getting boring. If you'd read the editorial maybe it would have made more sense. Pro-uranium material is not readily available to me — since *O Week* I haven't seen any on this campus. 'Labor Uranium Rethink' was not 'our' article. It was Mark Duffy and Terry Connolly's article. Furthermore the Swedish disposal methods were mentioned and the paragraph finished "it appears likely that disposal of nuclear waste is a problem which is on the verge of a permanent solution". Where's the argument? — C.B.]

C. Park for Napier

Dear Editors,

Upon completion of the Physical Geography Course (first year), I have found that relocating Arts students elsewhere (SAIT) would greatly improve land use on the campus. I suggest the modification of the Napier Building for use as an engineering students' car park. Savings gained by the university not supporting Arts students could be used to modernize existing facilities in the Engineering Faculty.

Yours sincerely,

C. Park

A Leap into the Future

The Scene

The roof of one of Adelaide's banks, approximately five hundred feet above the ground. Below, pedestrians swarm on the pavements, like starving maggots. On the edge of the roof perches one of the bank's employees. His appearance at first suggests a well adjusted, clean cut, generally straight young man. However, closer observance reveals globules of sweat above his eyebrows, and a tie which is unknotted. He is staring over the edge, and appears to be contemplating jumping.

The year is ... 1984!!!

Another figure appears on the roof; a female, also a bank employee. She moves towards the young man, and speaks:

Female Employee: Trevor ... Wha ... Wha ... What are you doing?

Trevor: Gloria, I'm going to jump.

Gloria: But why, Trev?

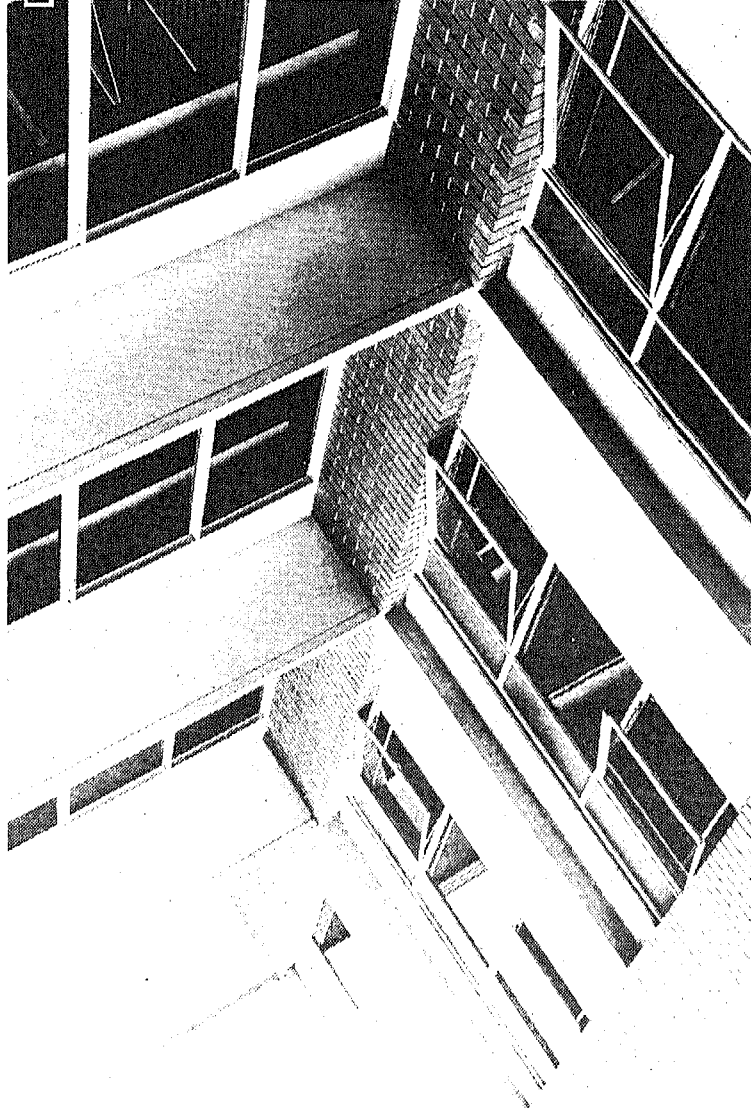
Trev: Because my dreams and ideals as an assistant bank clerk class no. 32 have not been realised.

Gloria (confused): I don't understand, Trevvy.

Trev (determined): OK Glor, I'll explain. Ever since my voice broke I always wanted to be an assistant bank clerk class no. 32. In all the sin and corruption of the world, I thought I'd be happy and secure as a clerky-werky, sitting behind a counter and giving and taking money, practising my smile, and going home at night all happy and emotionally Bradford insulated.

Gloria: But what happened Trev??

Trev: My dream didn't come true Glor. It all started last year, when I got shifted to the Loans Section. It was also just the time when the government had



introduced the Loans Scheme for students.

At first it was great fun. Lots of funny looking people with red eyes came in to take out a

big fat loan. They said they needed it for eating and clothes. Well that was last year. They all looked very happy when they trotted off

with their wads of money; they even said things like "Malcolm's not such a bad bloke after all".

They said it was better than TEAS. That was \$25 below the poverty line.

Well this year, Glor, it's all changed. This year the students have to pay Malcolm back all the money; in fact they have to pay back even more than they borrowed. They tried to get jobs, but no one would give them one, even though they've got letters after their names like B.Sc. and B.A. They keep on coming in here, asking please for some more money, because Malcolm won't let them have TEAS any more. Yesterday one came in, and his trousers fell down because he's so thin.

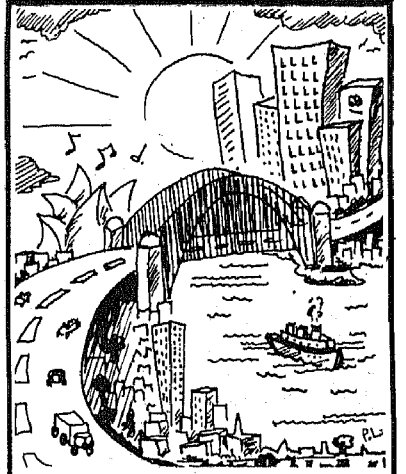
The interest they have to pay is 14%; that's almost as much as my IQ Glor. I can't stand it any more. I can't stand seeing all those poor people who want to make their brain cells dance and sing, but who know they won't be able to pay back the loan and interest as well. I can't stand the misery any more — I'm going to end my life with a grand splat on to the concrete.

Gloria: Cut the emotional bull-shit Trev. Get off your assistant clerk class no. 32 flabby arse, put your trousers back on, and follow me.

I'm zapping back in time to 1982, to July 19-23, 'cos that's Loans Week at Adelaide Uni. Hold my hand Trev. Together we'll fight this nasty loans scheme.

— Bill Morton

Will Gloria and Trev beat the loans scheme? Find out in Loans Week, July 19-23.



Sydney Sider

Sometime ago I talked about Nifty Nev's total dominance of NSW state politics.

For those still standing here after last week's electricity charges shock (up 75% in the year), a quick glance at the State Parliamentary Labor Party shows little disunity over Wran's personal decision to raise a whole host of state charges in the washup to the Premier's Conference.

Public transport is up 20% and petrol will rise by three cents a litre; electricity will go up an average of 25%.

Significantly, stamp duty on real estate transactions is not to rise, one of the few charge options that would have hit the rich rather than the poor.

What Wran has done is to introduce one of the heaviest doses of regressive taxation ever administered to the Australian public.

Because everyone pays the same increase, rich or poor, the burden falls heaviest on those least able to afford it. Even worse, travel expenses, public transport and petrol bear disproportionately on the poor in the isolated western suburbs.

Ignoring for a moment the argument that it's all Fraser's fault for not giving enough money and that Wran had very few revenue choices to make, the lack of opposition to the moves within Caucus is stunning.

Only one voice was raised in dissent, an indication of solid machine dominance, and the prestige and persuasiveness of Neville Wran.

Indeed, so sudden and isolated was the Premier's decision that the first the ministry heard of it was from the news media.

As the Herald's political commentator was moved to comment, "long live democracy, long live President Wran!"

Of course, the Presidential style of government is not an isolated phenomenon in Australia today.

Bjelke-Petersen in Johburg, and the Crazy Grazier in Canberra are no strangers to the autocratic exercise of power and where would a president be without his wife to help out?

Following Marg Whitlam's lead, the fresh faced but dandruff plagued Mrs F. is having her dabble in the arts policy arena.

Several arts administrators have found it a distinct advantage to have access to her shell like ear, no doubt at great personal cost to themselves.

Why not be honest about the whole thing? Let's get rid of the parliament and buy Tamara some good shampoo with the savings.

Geoff Hämmer in Sydney

You Pay with User Pays

The Federal government's *User Pays* policies have definite consequences for Australian society. Whilst reducing expenditure on welfare and education, the government is channelling funds to the wealthier sectors of the community through its economic and social policy; in other words, an ever less equitable distribution of opportunities and benefits is developing in this country.

Student Loans and Government Social Policy

by Sean Fairley, Dan Luxton and Chris Sen

The proposed loans scheme for tertiary students must be seen in this context.

The Tertiary Scene

The impact of government intentions has been apparent at Adelaide University for the last four years. In 1979, overseas students were made to pay fees at Australian universities. They use it, they should pay for it, was the philosophy. There was no thought for Australia's international reputation or duty to its poorer neighbours. In 1980 there was a campaign for higher TEAS benefits. Students began to become aware of the cutbacks in spending on universities and colleges. An hour off library times here, a tutor gone there, less ancillary staff ... and then, in early 1981, the threat of fees for second and postgraduate degrees. Tertiary education was becoming less accessible to the poorer sections of society.

Wider Education

The trend has been the same in state-funded schooling, which now gets a tight budget while private schools are receiving increased subsidies. The Razor Gang, which proposed fees for university study, also did away with valuable bodies like the Education Research and Development

Loans/Teas Week July 19 - 23

Tuesday July 20: Forum on the 'user pays' concept of education.

Wednesday July 21: General Student Meeting with John Dawkins, MHR (Federal Shadow Minister for Education) and Julia Gillard, AUS Education Vice-President.

Thursday July 22: Forum on Women and Education (women wear your blue stockings!).

4 pm: Protest

5 pm: Rock Against Loans with *Del Webb Explosion*.

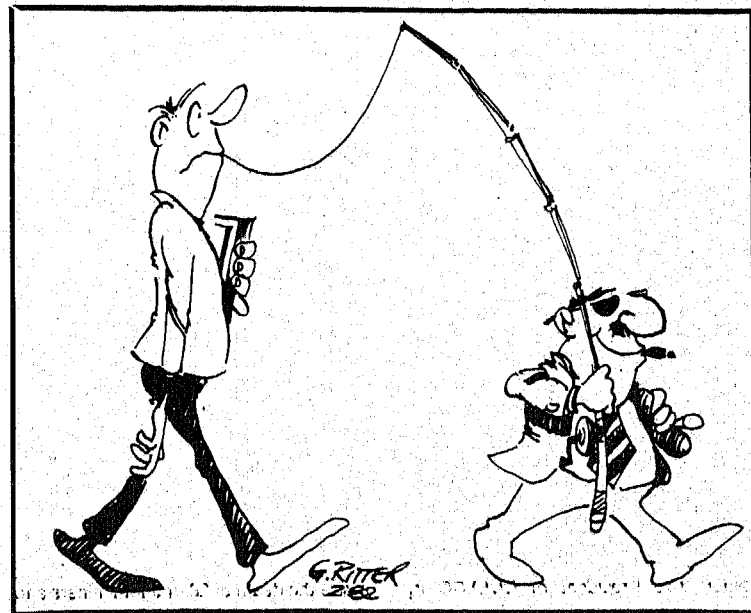
For more information attend the EAC meeting in the Student Activities Office at 1.10 pm on Thursday July 15. Help fight off the Loan Ranger!

Committee and the Curriculum Development Centre. Teachers went on strike for the first time in SA last year. The quality and confidence of the educators of 75% of Australian children was gradually being eroded.

The Poor and the Taxed

In 1980 it was estimated that 2,000,000 Australians live below the (Henderson) poverty line, including pensioners, unemployed and low income earners. In the face

of this the government has cut back the CES, is phasing out the CYSS schemes and threatened to abolish the under-18 dole. Medibank was also done in, and now many families cannot afford health insurance. On top of all this, the government imposed sales tax on basic goods, and increased income tax by not adjusting tax brackets to inflation. Working people were paying for the government's goal of balancing the



budget.

The Private Sector

Through various obscure schemes such as the Trading Stock Variation Adjustment or the Export Market Development Grant, the government has increased its direct subsidy of Australian business to several millions of dollars, making sure the rich stay rich even in a recession. The most recent scandal is an estimated annual \$5,000 million loss of revenue through mixtures of tax evasion and avoidance by certain company directors. These billions have to be made up by imposing more taxes on working people and cutting back public services.

The Loans Issue

The government's user pays intentions are made clear in their proposal for student loans. In a letter to the banks, Mr Howard stated his plans for TEAS:

Unless annual lending is raised considerably, there would be substantial problems for the government in presenting a loans scheme as a substitute for increases in TEAS.

In other words, TEAS, a government assistance to poor students, is to be phased out and replaced with a debt, which, at \$2,000 p.a. plus 13.5% interest, could not be an incentive to engage in tertiary study.

User pays theories belie the fact that many areas of need must be the responsibility of the society as a whole, if any element of fairness and efficiency is to be present. The present government, however, apparently works in a singularly mythical scenario of equality of wealth among Australians. The flow of aid from public to private schools, the attempted introduction of fees, and the present threat of loans, are all results of user pays policies. These government actions are having major detrimental effects on the quality of life in Australian society.

Student Radio 'is worth it'

Dear Eds.

President Klaric's latest *On dit* communique asks whether Student Radio is "worth it" (with a pretty clear inference that he thinks it might not be). I think it very much is worth it! Let's examine the arguments P.K. advances:

1) It plays 'alternative music'. Well, the night I wrote this there wasn't a single track from such a notably 'alternative' group as *Public Image, New Order, Sex Pistols* or the *Slugs*. Rather, groups like *Blondie, Harcut 100, The Reels, U2, Elvis Costello* and great local band *Del Webb Explosion* were played. People's tastes vary of course, but is Paul really suggesting that the majority of students would rather listen to Kamahl or *Bucks Fizz*? (Talk about the bland leading the bland!)

If you don't like a song then ring up and ask 'em to take it off — and maybe request a song while you're on the line. You can also influence the type of music broadcast by becoming a volunteer for Student Radio. (Who knows — it could be your first major step to media mega-stardom?)

2) It has a small audience. Klaric is probably right to imply that the number of student listeners is considerably less than it could be. Without being too optimistic, I feel there are two possible ways to try and overcome this.

Firstly, by more active publicity of Student Radio's programmes and indeed, its very existence (Given constraints of money and time etc.) Secondly, why doesn't Student Radio broaden its student information, its announcers and other volunteers, and its revenue sources by encompassing not just Adelaide Uni. students but other (Flinders, SACAE, SALT) campuses as well? The resulting larger audience and sounder financial base surely justify an effort — despite the inevitable difficulties.

3) Cost. Student Radio presently costs about 2 per cent of your Union Fee. If President Klaric is on a cost-cutting spree, aren't there larger budget areas he should examine? SR should be accountable for its expenditure, and try to squeeze as much out of every dollar as humanly possible — but eliminating it would hardly make a dent in the Fee.

For someone like me, who has been a regular listener to Student Radio since my high school years (back in the dark ages before 5SSA and 5MMM FM stations existed), I find the idea of axing it crazy. No more libelous comments from Vincent Wong or Colonel Cash's Audioscopic Jukebox, or anonymous film reviewers, or live-to-air broadcasts of local bands, or even (gasp) no more monologues from our ever-present President?

Listen to 'em, chastise and criticise 'em, help 'em out, request the impossible and forget the forgettable — but don't axe Student Radio!

Grant Fitzner

Dear Editors,

I have been prompted to write to you after reading a recent *On dit* article which refers to criticism of 5UV's Student Radio by someone called Pres. P.K. (whoever he/she is).

I am not a uni. student but rather someone who regularly drives home from work between 10 and 11 pm. Most nights I vainly dial my AM car radio through the wasteland called night time radio before descending with pleasure on 5UV.

Student Radio may be patchy and awkward at times, but it is refreshingly alive spontaneous entertainment. Compared with the terrible Geoff, trashy popular music and dry ABC classical and talk shows, it is actually fun.

I don't care if it is elitist. Add monologues, debates, masses, club reports or whatever if you must, but please don't make it as tedious as the day which has gone before.

For a measly three bucks a year it's good value (particularly as it's not my three bucks).

On behalf of many out on the dark deserted streets,

Yours sincerely
Harry Blindwell

Libs Attack

Dear Sir (sic)

The views put forward by local AUS Secretary Alan Fairley in the article *Lib. Club Brings 'Sale of the Century' Champ* (*On dit*, volume 50, number 11) are curious when considered in relation to AUS's poor record in the areas of democracy and individual freedom.

At this year's AUS Annual Council, a motion supporting the freedom of individuals not to join an association was rejected. AUS continues to support the closed-shop prevalent in Australia's tertiary institutions, whereby students who do not wish to fund student unions are refused access to a tertiary education.

AUS is notorious for the undemocratic nature of its structure. As far back as 1973, the Federal Minister for Labour in the Whitlam Government, Clyde Cameron, called for direct election of AUS office

bearers. In 1977 students around Australia voted 3:1 in favour of direct election of AUS office bearers, but this clear decision of students was overturned by the AUS hierarchy. Small campuses have per capital representation at AUS Annual Council up to fifty times that of larger campuses such as Adelaide University.

The declining popularity of AUS amongst Australian students vindicates this view. Since 1977 over half of Australia's major campuses have seceded from AUS, including the South Australian Institute of Technology; each of the three universities in Sydney; every major campus in Queensland; and Australia's largest tertiary institution, the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. As a result, only 49.4% of Australian students are now members of AUS.

The Australian Liberal Student Federation's strong stand against the corporatist policy supported by AUS is one based firmly on the rights of the individual. The principle of individual freedom is at the centre of Liberal philosophy, and perhaps more than anything else, sets it apart from the left-wing of the political spectrum. I make no apology for that.

Yours faithfully,
Richard Camm
Vice-President

Australian Liberal Students' Federation

Fairley fights back

Dear Chris and Tim,

This letter is in reply to the letters of the Liberal Club's dynamic duo, Graham and David, published last week. I'm writing in my capacity as AUS Secretary, in which capacity I was asked for my reaction to the reformation of the Liberal Club (AULC). As you know, I have an immediate reply, which should be accepted as such, not as refined criticism. Any question of collusion (there's that word again) between myself and yourself as editors prior to publication of the story in question should be refuted immediately. My understanding of the facts is that you treated the anti-AUS diatribe, which the dynamic duo call an article, as a press release on the basis of which you compiled a news item. I think it is important that you should outline editorial policy concerning when exactly you will approach the Students' Association Executive for an official reply in the same issue as an article appears. This was not such a case, and I consider the editors to have been correct in not submitting the Liberal press release in such a fashion.

Cronin's article earlier in the year was an instance where the democratically elected representatives of the student body should be able to reply immediately. That article was based upon lies and distortions, as editors the correct course was taken; to prevent any misapprehensions based upon 'Grouper' slander.

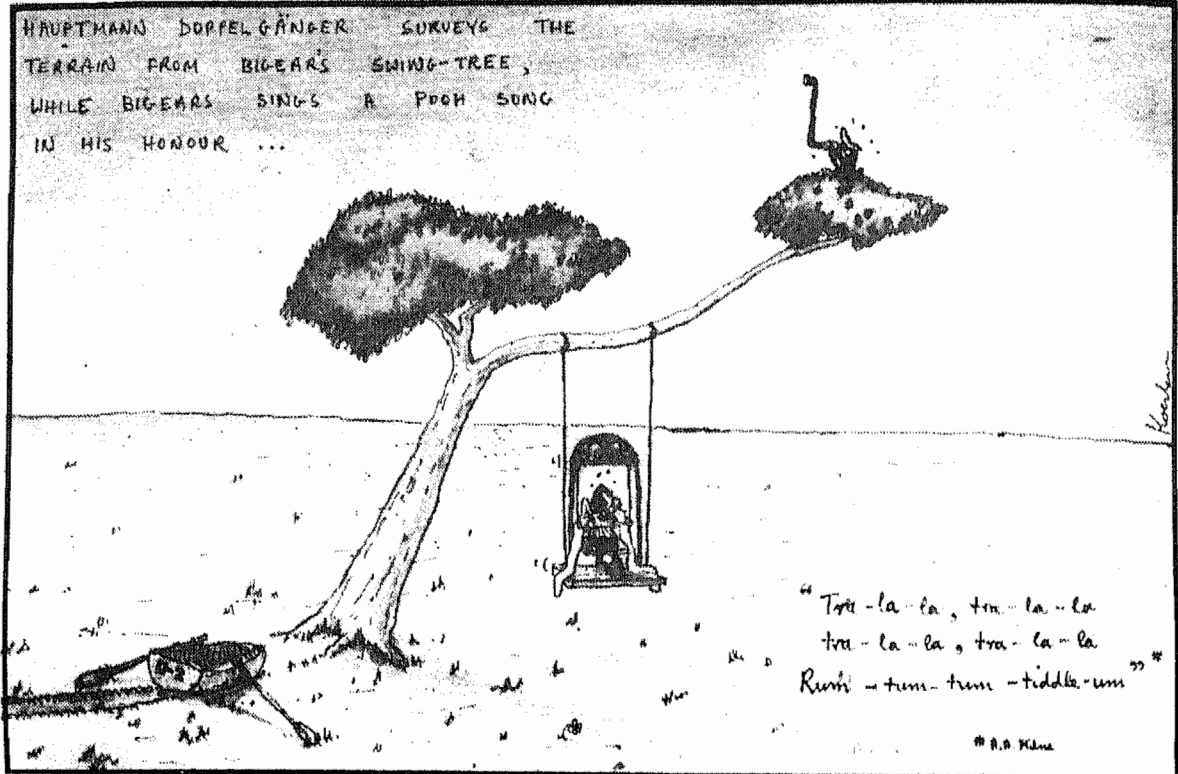
But since comrades Graham and David wish me to be more specific, I think it would be helpful if the AULC itself provided the information which will help facilitate the "exercise of student freedom". Remember, democratic choices are made by an informed public. So I think the students of Adelaide University can expect specific answers to the following questions within the next couple of issues of *On dit*.

1. Will the AULC provide for open discussion of complete motions and policy from the last ALSF conference? (AUS policy is set every January and lapses after twelve months. I am the person to see if information on it is required or if you wish to study it.)

2. I believe the ALSF (Australian Liberal Students' Federation) is primarily a political force from outside the arena of student politics. Their aim is to destroy a coherent voice for the interests of Australian students, specifically AUS the best means for criticizing Federal Education policy. In line with this contention: can the AULC deny allegations that the ALSF has received funding from the Uranium Producers' Forum? And, would the AULC accept funding, or material subsidized by, the uranium lobby in their campaign against student unions.

3. As the AULC claims to be "still on the books", and traces its history to formation in 1947, will it be undertaking to repay the \$400 or so embezzled from the students of Adelaide University in 1979?

4. With specific reference to anti-student activities:
(a) Recognizing that Australian students have had to spend some \$40,000 over the past five years defending themselves against (unsuccessful) actions brought by Liberal students, does the AULC or ALSF endorse the use of courts to overthrow the democratic decisions of student unions? (and despite ranting and raving about 'individualism' decisions are made through the democratic process).
(b) Is the AULC prepared to dissociate itself from the disruptive and, at times,



loutish behaviour of senior members of ALSF at 1982 AUS Council? (e.g. their national Executive member turning up drunk to the final session of Council and throwing a table at the Union's accountant).

Will the AULC support AUS's present structure? i.e. a voluntary association of campus student unions based upon the democratic decision of students on each campus as to whether to affiliate to the national body.

I think it is only fair that Adelaide students receive replies to these questions. The fundamental failing of Liberal students has been, and no doubt will be, their refusal to accept the will of the majority. Recourse to the courts and government legislation manifests this. The right of membership is based upon collective acceptance of responsibilities — that minority who wish to benefit from the contributions of others should be recognized as the bludgers they are.

Alan Fairley
Local AUS Secretary

Women's Week for . . .

Dear Editors,

It is good to see that Women's Week activities and the Women's Week edition of *On dit* have provoked some discussion in the letters column. The account that H.M. Eylward gives of the encouragement and support in her career choice she has received from teachers and academics is encouraging. When you consider the struggle faced by all women attempting tertiary education not so long ago (their wombs would shrink and they would become infertile if too much of their energy was diverted to the mind, you know. No one seemed too concerned about the effects of study on the virility of men ...) it shows a significant advance in our society that girls with a liking for mathematics can be encouraged to pursue that interest, even to the extent of taking up engineering. Ms Eylward's case shows that the struggles of Women's Liberationists and sympathetic men over the last century have had a considerable impact on Western Society.

I agree with her that sexual discrimination is not present in such "gross proportions" as it once was, but getting this far has been a struggle of centuries, and we still have a long way to go before Ms Eylward's case is the rule and not the exception.

Peter Beinke's letter also raises some interesting points. As a member of Women on Campus, I would like to respond to some of his questions and criticisms of that club.

Yes, Women's Week 1982 was endorsed by Women on Campus. Last term we made the decision to attempt to organise a week of activities, and to encourage other campus groups to organise activities around women's issues to coincide. The only two groups to respond were Christians for Socialism with a forum on Women and the Church, and *On dit* with a centre page on women.

Mr Beinke's next assumption, however, is less than accurate. The Women's Liberation Movement is not Women on Campus. It would be truly remarkable if the achievements of the Women's Movement had been accomplished by one group of women on a university campus. The WOC group is a part — a tiny part — of the Women's Liberation Movement.

Like most social movements, the Women's Movement is very broadly based and includes women from a wide range of situations and with a wide range of political perspectives, who all agree on the basic need to end the exploitation of and discrimination against women in our society. Amongst all those women I have not yet met one who believes that the solution is a reversal of roles. The feminist

would-be-dictator of popular mythology is rare indeed in reality.

Some women in the movement wish to see an equal sharing of all roles between men and women. Many others want an equal sharing, but at the same time a complete redefinition of roles so that no one has to pretend a character they do not have or suppress their interests of personality in order to fill a role.

Still others argue that it will take too long a "meet too much opposition from men to achieve" such a goal, and so they propose living separately from men, in communities of women.

Mr Beinke's assertion that the Women's Liberation Movement wants a reversal of roles, with women oppressing men, finds little substantiation in truth.

I find Mr Beinke's "bold suggestion" that "WOC need redirecting towards new avenues" and should "start including men in their activities" surprising. Women on Campus has recently held several forums and film showings on feminist issues to which men have been invited. Men have been notably absent from these events.

When sexism occurs on this campus how often is it men who bring it up and make a public complaint? But of course, you answer, women should fight for their own liberation — it's not up to men to raise issues. But when it comes to determining *how* and *when* and *what* women are going to raise, men suddenly find they have a role to play ...

Finally I would like to point out that there are plenty of reasons why women want to and need to meet without men present which have nothing to do with the fact that some women are lesbians.

Sincerely
Linda Gale

Dear Editors,

Let me warn the students of this university that the assumptions some of you make about that mysterious body of female lunatics called Women on Campus are all absolutely true.

Let me also warn you to look the other way when you pass the Women's Room on Tuesday lunchtimes — we're all in there necking in the corners. If you're a man, however, keep well clear of the place. We're a mad, aggressive lot of male haters and if you get our backs up you're likely to be the victim of one of our customary man hunts. It's not a pleasant experience.

And if you're walking through the university at night, beware; we hide in dark corners with sharp knives and castrate men who walk past just to avenge our oppression.

The worst thing about us though is that we're everywhere. You can't tell, because some of us shed our overalls and haversacks in disguise. Be careful guys; you might even be sleeping with one and, remember ... we're dangerous.

Mary Heard

I was bitterly disappointed when I read Peter Beinke's letter last week that I hadn't seen *Blue Lagoon*. It must have been a true masterpiece, disqualifying the "myth" of the nature vs nurture debate. It apparently depicted what youngens will do when left up to the forces of nature and their own biological destinies. I presume you are not familiar with the working of a film set else you would have realised that this was a story not a true life event. Of course Brooke Shields must be a feminist as she doesn't pluck her eyebrows and her mother must be too, because she won't let her. I suppose you would agree.

Really, how can you expect us to sympathise with your cause when you make such ridiculous statements. You should take care, Mr Beinke, those lesbian extremists may be after your hide. Don't hide behind your friends and others as you did in your letter — just run! Thank you kindly for your suggestion of male redirection for Women on Campus, but you have missed entirely the main objective of Women's Week. I would suggest a firmer basis for your next argument; this one doesn't hold. In answer to your accusation

of 'stupid assumptions' I would propose that you have mastered them.

Finally remember Mr Blonko: "A woman who strives to be equal with a man, lacks ambition ..."

Carmel O'Connell
(and her lesbian extremist friends — beware!)

against . . .

Editors,

Having been subjected to Women's Week and reading through the Women's Week Reaction column in the *On dit* letters of 5/8/82, we have come to the conclusion that the major points put forward by the feminist movement are indeed correct.

Sexism is alive in this university, and as such, we should all put in a determined effort to stamp out such vile monstrosities. We highly commend the actions of Women on Campus, fighting the tyranny and evils of society, boldly going where no man has ever gone before.

On the other hand (it's a man's prerogative to change his mind), if Women on Campus are truly sincere in their convictions against sexism, then they should rename their movement 'People on Campus', or 'The Society for Equal Opportunity'. At the moment, they certainly are not doing this!

The general attitude of feminism smacks of hypocrisy and resentment. While this attitude is taken by the feminist groups, we do not hold much hope for any general student support.

Richard Semmens
Hilary Lineage

What is AUS policy?

Dear Eds,

During last term there was some debate about the value of AUS and the nature of its policies. Again this term there has been claim and counter-claim banded around on the subject, and so I would like to take this opportunity to attempt to find out the truth about AUS policies.

Are the following official AUS policies?:

- The structure of AUS Women's Department is part of a revolutionary process, the continuing aim of which is to attack patriarchy, racism and capitalism, and the nature of society as a whole.
 - Individual responsibility for child-rearing is a destructive norm within society.
 - Rape is a political crime executed by men against women — it is not simply a sexual crime but is a tool of intimidation and control. Thus rape of one woman is a political act against all women.
 - AUS believes that all men are implicated in the act of rape because women are seen as victims and every man benefits as a result of this.
 - AUS condemns Amnesty International for its neglect and lack of effect on behalf of the Irish Political Prisoners and urges Amnesty International to fulfil their obligations to all prisoners of conscience.
 - AUS declines the right of religious clubs and societies on campus to affiliate to the local CSA, or to be given assistance in the same way as other clubs and societies.
 - AUS does not support the right of the individual for the enjoyment of private property.
 - is opposed to uranium mining, and requires its members to break the law to prevent it.
- If some, or all of these, are AUS policies, I would like to know what they have to do

cont on p. 6

Central America Week

Monday

1.10 pm Little Cinema.
Slides and talk on Nicaragua

Wednesday

1.10 pm Little Cinema
Film — *El Salvador, The People Will Win.*

Thursday

1.10 pm GSM in Mayo.

GSM Motions for July 12 at 1.00 pm
Barr Smith Lawns or Mayo Refectory

- 1) Call for immediate withdrawal of all US military personnel from El Salvador and the cessation of financial, technical and military aid to the present military regime.
- 2) Condemns support given by the Australian Government to the US's policy of supporting the junta in El Salvador.
- 3) Calls on the Australian Government to recognise the Revolutionary Democratic Front as the legitimate representative of the people of El Salvador, as has already been done by the Mexican and French Governments.



SOLIDARITY WITH CENTRAL AMERICA

What actually happens in one country often differs from what people read and see in local media coverage. Many travellers see things which stretch our credibility not because they don't exist but because we have never experienced them so tend to believe that they don't exist. RENFREY CLARKE has been to Nicaragua and writes of his personal experience and of some events which to most of us seem unbelievable.

I was in Nicaragua in July 1980, twelve months after the huge insurrection which overthrew the Somoza dictatorship. The country made an enormous impact on me, and I find hard to sum up briefly the rich experience of being among a people gripped by revolution.

But I can pinpoint three things which struck me with special force.

First would be the backwardness of the country and the miserable living conditions of most of its people — the factors which drove Nicaraguans to revolt.

Second would be the appalling destruction, as a result of earthquake and civil war, that was evident in many parts of the country.

Third, the most memorable of all, was the revolution itself.

When I returned to Australia and searched through my photos to find one which would sum up the poverty and exploitation Nicaraguans had endured under Somoza, I chose a picture I'd taken on a coffee estate in the hills overlooking the capital, Managua.

The picture showed the interior of a farm workers' barracks. Along each wall of this dark, dusty building, were three tiers of cubicles, about six feet square and four feet high. Under Somoza each of these little kennels had been home to an entire family.

More than one hundred people had lived in the barracks, without sanitation or clean water. Wages on the estate were around \$2 a day, during the months when work was available. At other times of the year, many families only survived because the women prostituted themselves.

As a matter of course, half the children born on estates like this died before their fifth birthday, mostly of gastro-intestinal infections aggravated by internal parasites.

Since the estate had been part of the vast holdings of the Somoza family, the new Sandinista government had nationalised it. But so far, the revolutionaries had only been able to make limited changes to the living conditions of the workers. Wages had been raised by ten per cent. A new barracks had been built — cleaner and more spacious than the old, but along similar lines. Latrines had been provided, and the water supply improved.

But even measures like this, which the Somoza regime had never troubled to implement, were expected to allow many more children to survive.

The urban counterparts of the farm workers' barracks were the "margins", the slum districts which surround Nicaragua's towns as they surround towns throughout almost all of Latin America. The main building materials in these districts are rough timber off-cuts and plastic sheeting. The floors are of earth, and whole suburbs

lack electricity or sanitation.

In one of the most bitter contrasts to be seen in Nicaragua, such slums closely adjoin the *Colonia los Robles*, the diplomatic quarter of Managua where the elegant houses of Nicaragua's richest families lie under purple clouds of bougainvillea. I found, however, that many of these houses had guards posted outside, and new government offices operating within.

The signs of backwardness and decay are, of course, extremely familiar to anyone who has travelled in Latin America. But there's something which marks Nicaragua off immediately from other countries in the region. That's the sheer physical battering the cities have received in the last ten years.

As you drive into Managua from the airport, you pass the twisted metal frames of what once were factory buildings. Block after block of them, on each side of the road. In June and July 1979, as the Somoza regime tottered, Sandinista guerrillas poured from the countryside into Managua's eastern suburbs, and the working-class population there rose up in sympathy with them.

Somoza responded by having his air force unload 500-pound bombs over heavily populated areas.

As the insurgents advanced, the dictator decided that if the Sandinistas won, they'd inherit a devastated economy. Factory after factory was bombed into ruins. The country's industrial capacity plummeted.

When you reach the centre of Managua, a quite different scene opens up before you. Instead of the tangle of hovels and skyscrapers which is the centre of most Latin American cities, there is nothing in inner Managua but overgrown fields, with here and there a few solitary buildings, like tombstones in a vast graveyard. Late in 1972 the city was wiped out by an earthquake, and tens of thousands of people were killed. No one was permitted to rebuild in the city centre; that could only be done further out, mostly on land which had to be bought from Somoza and his cronies.

At the time I was in Nicaragua, the Sandinistas were admitting that they weren't yet in a position to undertake the task of building a new economy; they faced the immense job of simply rebuilding what had existed before. But I don't want to give the impression that people were demoralised by the country's problems, or daunted by the work ahead of them. Everywhere I encountered people who were anxious to put in an exemplary effort, since they were convinced that such an effort was now worthwhile, that it would result in the construction of a better society. To the extent that sheer willpower is capable of changing people's lives, the Nicaraguans seemed destined to

transform their existence.

And big changes were occurring. My stay in Nicaragua coincided with the height of the literacy crusade. Under Somoza, close on 50 per cent of the population had been unable to read and write. So for five months of 1980, the Sandinistas mobilised the great majority of the country's high school and university population to go into the urban slums and rural hamlets, to live and work among the masses, and to teach them to read.

In the literacy campaign primer, the first words to be learnt were "la revolucion" — which together contain all five Spanish vowels.

The literacy campaign was a bold project. Apart from Cuba, no other Latin American country had ever undertaken such a thing. But it worked; by the end of 1980, illiteracy had been cut to 12 per cent. An essential foundation for future economic advances had been laid.

After I had spent a few weeks in Nicaragua it struck me that one of the great achievements of the revolution had been to wrench people out of their narrow personal preoccupations, freeing them to imagine what could be done by masses of people working purposefully together. Out of this expanding vision had come a passion for organisation. Already, most of the country's industrial workers had been unionised, and peasant unions had a membership of hundreds of thousands. The Sandinistas had also worked hard to encourage the setting up of organisations of women and youth.

The most prominent organisations of all

were the Sandinista Defence Committees, the grass-roots neighbourhood bodies through which town-dwellers were running their collective affairs and helping implement education and health programmes.

The popular organisations were opening up to even the poorest of Nicaraguans something they had always lacked — democratic control over important aspects of their social environment.

Another collective preoccupation was with defence. When I was in Nicaragua literacy teachers had already begun to be killed by Somozaist thugs infiltrating back over the borders. Working people in their tens of thousands were joining the Sandinista militia to be armed and trained.

The culminating experience of my stay was the celebration, on 19th July, of the first anniversary of the Sandinista victory. It was an experience to shatter the illusion that ordinary people are indifferent to politics, that they can't be reached and moved to commit themselves. Six hundred thousand people — as many as the entire population of Managua — packed out a huge square, listening to Fidel Castro and to leaders of the Sandinista movement.

It wasn't just an expression of political commitment. It was also a warning from the Nicaraguan masses to their enemies. Those who mobilised were telling the world that whatever the problems of the revolution, whatever the attacks upon it, ordinary Nicaraguans were ready to defend their gains to the death.



Portrait of Sandino hangs at an August 28, 1979 rally in Managua.

HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT EL SALVADOR LATELY?

Since coming to power, the movement has worked to develop Grenada's resources, and to undo some of the worst effects of centuries of pillage by Britain and the US. Enterprises like the electric supply system, which was being sabotaged by its foreign owners, have been expropriated. Strong measures have been taken against speculators in foodstuffs. Unused land has been seized, and turned over to be farmed by the island's unemployed.

With extensive Cuban help, an international airport has been planned and brought close to completion. This will do much to boost Grenada's tourist industry.

Through encouraging the formation of village and parish councils, the Grenadian revolutionaries are involving the population in an effective system of grass-roots democracy.

Although Grenada's population is only 110,000 — hardly more than a crowd at a football final — the US has been alarmed by these developments. With the first real revolution by Black English-speaking people, Grenada is a pole of attraction not only for the people of the Caribbean, but also for Blacks within the US.

According to reports appearing in the US press, the Reagan administration has earmarked \$US19 million to arm, train and support an army of 4,000 to 5,000 right-wing terrorists, based in Honduras and infiltrating over the Nicaraguan border.

But the Cuban revolutionaries responded by mobilising the population to drive the revolutionary process forward. Popular measures taken during these first years included the nationalisation of all US assets; the expropriation of all rental housing; a thorough-going land reform, and a mass campaign to wipe out illiteracy.

The US has worked overtime to try to smash the Cuban revolution. A complete embargo has been placed on US trade with Cuba, and heavy pressure has been placed on Latin American countries to ban trade as well. Cuba has been forced to depend heavily on the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe for trade, credit and defence needs.

Besides the trade embargo, Washington has employed diplomatic isolation, sabotage, assassination plots, chemical and bacteriological warfare, and mercenary invasions to try to bring Cuba to heel.

Despite this, the Cuban revolution has gone ahead. The country today has Latin America's lowest general mortality and infant death rates. Virtually the whole working-age population has now been educated to sixth-grade level, and the target is for ninth grade.

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The number of jobless stood in 1978 at 1.3 per cent — a level which economists studying capitalist societies dismiss as "fractional unemployment". While growth rates and working-class living standards in other non-oil-exporting states of Latin America have collapsed in recent years, Cuba's planned economy has continued at an annual rate of between 4 and 5 per cent.

Because of these advances — now being matched by the implementation of workers' democracy through a unique system of popular power assemblies — the Cuban revolution has an immense attraction for working people throughout Latin America. A major preoccupation of US foreign policy is now the prevention of "further Cubas".

Nicaragua and Grenada

But Washington's efforts to contain the Cuban example have been in vain. In 1979, two revolutionary insurrections occurred, whose leaders then set their countries firmly on the Cuban road.

The first of these overthrows took place in March 1979 on the Caribbean island of Grenada. Under the brutal rule of dictator Eric Gairy, a revolutionary opposition had grown up on the island, and had formed itself into the New Jewel Movement (standing for Joint Endeavour for Welfare, Education and Liberation).

Taking up arms after being tipped off that Gairy had ordered the assassination of its leaders, the New Jewel Movement launched a coup which quickly developed into a full-scale, popular uprising.

History is being created in Central America and little is heard of it. News services around the world have concentrated on the Falklands, Royal babies and now the Middle East. But the struggle continues with or without our knowledge. Is our silence tacit approval? RENNREY CLARKE outlines some of the events occurring in Central America.

Whole areas of north-eastern Nicaragua have had to be evacuated because of these marauders. So far this year several hundred Nicaraguans have been killed by them. At present clashes are occurring, on average, once every two days.

This imperialist aggression comes as an extra burden for Nicaraguans on top of already severe economic handicaps. In the final months of the civil war, Nicaragua's industrial capacity was devastated by the scorched-earth tactics of Somoza's retreating forces.

Since then, the international capitalist recession has slashed world prices for the cotton, sugar and bananas which are Nicaragua's main exports.

Nevertheless, the work of rebuilding has proceeded. In 1981 Nicaragua's economy grew by 8.7 per cent — the highest growth rate in Latin America, and among the highest in the world.

In May this year, however, these gains were placed in jeopardy by catastrophic floods, which destroyed 30 per cent of the plantings of basic crops and washed away at least thirty-six bridges.

economic support to two of the most homicidal ruling layers in Latin American history.

In El Salvador, well over 30,000 people have been murdered since the beginning of 1980 by the country's armed forces and by far right-wing paramilitary gangs. Indiscriminate slaughter has become one of the few effective weapons available to the country's wealthy ruling class as it struggles to put down a spreading popular insurrection.

Since 1980 this mass struggle has been led by the Revolutionary Democratic Front, a political alliance grouping together working-class, peasant and middle-class organisations which speak for the great majority of the country's population. The military struggle has been organised by the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, named for the leader of a peasant uprising in the early 1930s.

The political ferment in El Salvador has its roots in student and labour struggles in the early 1970s. Receiving a big boost from the Sandinista victory in Nicaragua, it grew throughout 1979 and the early months of

Thousands of Salvadorean troops are receiving combat training at military bases in the US. Reports are increasing that US "advisers" have been leading Salvadorean units in combat operations.

Salvadoreans have never been fooled as to the brutality of the country's rulers, or the political aims of the officer corps. But in order to continue bankrolling genocide in Central America, US leaders have had to try to confuse international opinion through a campaign of lies and distortions.

Among the slanders has been the claim that the war is the result of "Soviet expansionism". Central to this position is the charge that the Salvadorean guerrillas have been receiving large quantities of Soviet-bloc weapons by way of Cuba and Nicaragua — something that the US intelligence services have found impossible to demonstrate.

An equally persistent lie has been Washington's claim that the successive regimes in San Salvador have been "moderate, reformist" governments anxious to push through reforms and ensure a return to democratic methods of rule.

However, events have shown decisively that recent Salvadorean governments have been the same as every set of rulers in the last fifty years — brutal defenders of the wealthy elite.

Perhaps the best proof of this lies with the "land reform" programme launched in mid-1980. Ostensibly, this programme was supposed to undercut support for the FDR/FMLN by providing land to poor peasants. However, it quickly emerged that the "reform" was being used to provide a cover for the military occupation of the countryside, and the systematic extermination of peasant activists. The present government recently acknowledged its opposition to land reform by suspending one of the scheme's central programmes, known as "Land to the Tillers".

Another diversionary tactic urged on the Salvadorean rulers by their US paymasters has been the holding of national elections, which took place in late March.

According to the Salvadorean authorities, more than 1.4 million votes were counted, from a total Salvadorean population of five million. But a study conducted since by the Central American University has concluded that it would have been physically impossible for more than 700,000 people to have voted at the few polling places, and that the actual vote was probably a good deal less.

To the acute discomfiture of US officials, the elections did not return a majority from the "moderate" far-right rump of the Christian Democratic Party which had provided the leading figures in the previous government. The present regime is controlled by representatives of ultra-right parties outraged even by the fake promises of reform issued periodically by the Christian Democrats.

Meanwhile, the military position of El Salvador's rich is crumbling. In a recent assessment, it was remarked that during 1982 the war has come down from the hills into the lowlands where the great majority of the population live. Army commanders have spoken of their garrisons as "islands in a sea of guerrillas". Again and again, well-armed and trained guerrillas have fought army offensives to a standstill. During June, FMLN fighters overran the provincial garrison town of Perquin, and held it for eighteen days.

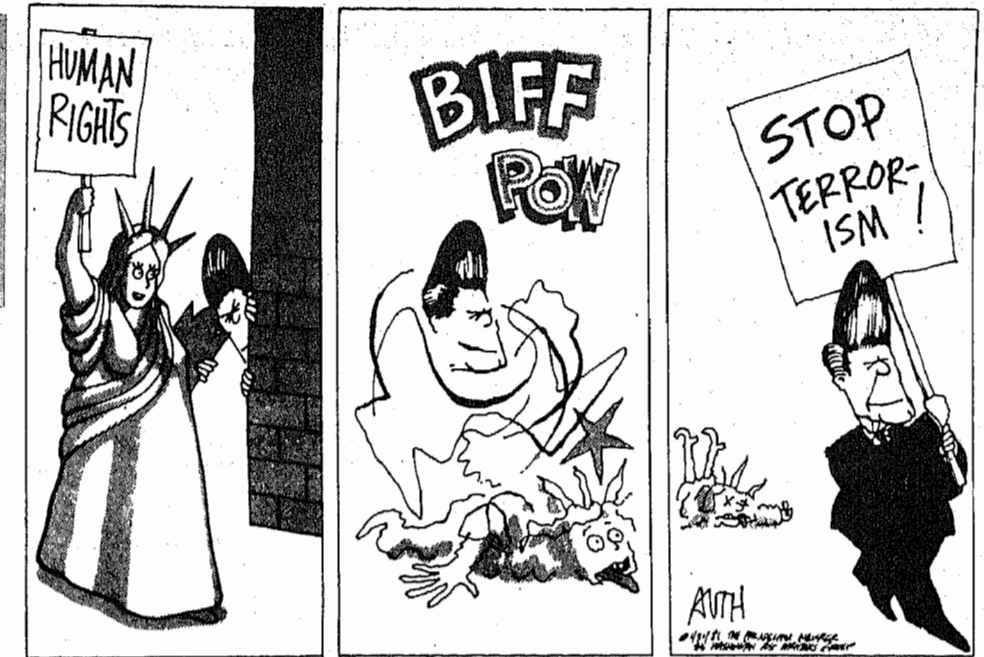
Unless the US dramatically steps up its intervention, it is now widely recognised, the Salvadorean ruling class is doomed.

Every few days, opposition sources in El Salvador report fresh massacres of civilians. But for sheer genocidal efficiency, El Salvador's armed forces are outstripped by the military in neighbouring Guatemala.

Since the current Guatemalan government of General Efraim Rios Montt took power in a coup on March 23, some 4,000 civilians, mostly Indian peasants, have been slaughtered. Reports emerge regularly of the military using scorched-earth tactics in the countryside, destroying crops, burning forests, and shooting the entire population of villages.

These systematic killings have been the army's main response to a savage guerrilla war which has erupted in Guatemala during the last two years. While the struggle is less advanced than in El Salvador, army analysts admit that the Guatemala National Revolutionary Union (UNRG), the opposition bloc formed in February this year, commands at least 3,000 active fighters and 30,000 reserves.

1982 has seen a marked growth in the ability of the UNRG to take on and defeat army units. In a further ominous development for the government and its US backers, a centre



of guerrilla activity has been the highland districts inhabited by the country's Indian population. In the past Guatemala's super-exploited Indians, who make up around half of the country's 6.5 million people, have generally remained outside the political struggles of the Spanish-speaking lowlands.

In supporting the Guatemalan rulers, the US is having to labour under serious political constraints.

Over the past eight years, opponents charge, the Guatemalan state has been responsible for the disappearance without trace of some 30,000 people. Because virtually all of the country's liberal capitalists and professional people have been silenced or driven into exile, there is little possibility of the US installing a "moderate", "reformist" government as a cover for continued repression.

In the absence of such a "liberal" facade, Guatemala's appalling human rights record has made it difficult for Washington openly to provide arms to the country's military. Supplies of sophisticated weaponry have had to be routed through Israel.

In the most recent period, however, the Reagan administration has outlined plans to give direct military aid to Guatemala, citing "communist expansionism" as the cause.



Central America and the Threat of World War

As their position in Central America and the Caribbean deteriorates, US policymakers are weighing the cost of large-scale military intervention to "save" an important part of their semi-colonial empire.

There is no question that the US has an immense stake in the outcome of the wars now being waged in the region. In Central and South America, the "domino theory" has a great deal of validity; economic and social conditions resembling those which sparked revolutions in Cuba and Nicaragua prevail in every country south of the US border.

It is also clear that the spread of the Cuban example to major parts of Latin America would be an economic disaster for US imperialism.

A long series of Latin American countries have impossibly large debts to US banks. Repudiation of these loans by a revolutionary government in a major debtor nation could well precipitate a chain of banking collapses in the US.

And at a more basic level, the ruthless exploitation of the third world is an indispensable condition for the survival of advanced capitalist economies.

Each year, US imperialism extracts from Latin America, in the form of remitted profits, interest on loans, licensing fees for patents, and through a series of other channels, a sum between three and four times as great as the new capital it transfers to the region.

In recent decades, the US has been able to ride out its economic crises largely because of the "cushioning" effect of this plunder. Also of great importance has been the role of Latin America as a captive market for US manufactured goods, soaking up over-production and helping flatten out the US

trade cycle. If successful revolutions allowed Latin American countries to push ahead with the planned development of machine-building and other import-substitution industries, as Cuba has done, this dependency on the US would largely disappear — and the economic and political problems which the US rulers faced at home would multiply alarmingly.

For reasons like this, it has been expected that the US will, at some point, unleash its armed might to try to crush the Latin American revolution. It is this compulsion of imperialism to go to war for its profits which poses the greatest threat to peace in the world today.

The main reason why the US has not sent the marines into Central America during the last decade, as it did repeatedly earlier in the century, is because of the powerful anti-war sentiment created in the American people by the experience of the Vietnam War. So far, the Reagan administration appears to have decided that the situation in El Salvador is not yet critical enough to warrant setting off the huge domestic explosions which a full-scale intervention would produce.

As the FMLN nears victory, the pressures on Reagan to send in the troops will become extreme. Nevertheless, the US can be forced to stay out of El Salvador.

While imperialism is compelled to try to crush the Latin American revolution, that's not to say it can't be deterred from taking particular steps — if the international opposition is powerful enough.

It is this compulsion of imperialism to go to war for its profits which poses the greatest threat to peace in the world today.

In the fight against imperialist war in Central America, our example should be the campaign against the war in Vietnam. After struggles involving tens of millions of people around the world, this campaign was able to force the US and its allies to slash their troop commitment.

In many ways, today's struggle against war stands on the shoulders of the Vietnam campaign. One proof of this was the peace demonstration of a million people in New York on June 12 — arguably the largest political demonstration in US history.

Peace activists in Australia now have to turn the methods of the Vietnam campaign to averting today's prime threat of world war — US aggression in Central America. Demands such as "US Hands Off El Salvador" must be taken into the trade unions, the Labor Party, and the student movement.

Like the Vietnam struggle, this must be a mobilising struggle, aimed at drawing supporters into large, militant, and highly visible demonstrations of their commitment.

Prayers of the Fascist

Our CIA that art in the USA
Hallowed be thy initials
Thy invasion come
Thy will be done
In Bolivia as in Viet Nam
Give us this day our daily arms
And forgive us our debts
As we forgive our investors.
And lead us not into inflation
And deliver us from the guerrillas
For thine is the empire, and our
wealth and our country
forever
Amen.

Roque Dalton Garcia



March 27 demonstration of 40,000 in Washington, D.C.

In the last few months little information on Central America has appeared in the Australian press. The local media have concentrated almost entirely on the recent war between Argentina and Britain, and more recently still, on the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

But the media do not create history. Although Central America has been absent from the headlines, crucial battles are being waged there. Their outcome is sure to have a fundamental bearing on the course of international politics for the rest of this decade.

Even more than the Middle East, the Central American and Caribbean region is now the critical point of collision of international capitalism with the third world peoples it exploits. Already, Cuba, Nicaragua and the Eastern Caribbean island of Grenada have thrown out US-backed dictators, and are constructing societies in which the needs of ordinary workers and peasants have first priority.

And the revolution is spreading. In Guatemala and especially El Salvador, the position of the US-supported regimes has weakened dramatically during the last six months.

A popular victory in either of these countries could be expected to seal the fate of the ruling rich in other countries of the region. And as international recession devastates the national economies of the South American continent, millions of working people are looking towards the Central American example.

The Committee in Solidarity with Central America and the Caribbean has chosen a period in late July to focus attention on these developments. Important dates during this time will be July 19 — the third anniversary of the Sandinista Front's victory in Nicaragua — and July 26.

The Cuban Revolution

July 26 — Cuba's national day — is an important occasion for Central America and the Caribbean. It marks the anniversary of the night in 1953 when a group of young revolutionaries, led by Fidel Castro, attacked the Moncada barracks in the Cuban city of Santiago. Millions of people in the region now remember this assault as the opening of the final epoch in their fight to free their countries from imperialist control.

The Moncada attack was defeated, with heavy losses to the revolutionaries. But the struggle continued, and by January 1959 a mass uprising had driven the dictator Batista into exile.

The government set up by Castro's July 26 Movement turned out to be completely different from the mildly, reformist regime, ultimately subservient to US interests, which Washington had counted on. Castro was out to eliminate poverty, illiteracy and ill health; when these aspirations placed him in conflict with the US corporations which owned much of the Cuban economy, it was the needs of Cuba's poor which were given precedence.

In little more than a year, Washington's attitude to the new Cuban government turned intensely hostile, and attempts began to be made to "destabilise" and overthrow Castro and his colleagues.



Also of great importance has been the role of Latin America as a captive market for US manufactured goods, soaking up over-production and helping flatten out the US trade cycle.

El Salvador and Guatemala

Underestimating the political resolve of the Sandinistas, and unwilling to be seen aiding the Somoza dictatorship, the US stood by while the revolutionaries triumphed in Nicaragua.

In El Salvador and Guatemala, Washington is making no such mistake. There, the US is giving generous military and

1980, expressing itself in effective general strikes, and anti-government demonstrations involving hundreds of thousands of people.

By August 1980, the government killings had reached such a level that further open political work was precluded. Since then, the FMLN has waged an increasingly effective guerrilla struggle.

For some time, El Salvador's capitalists and landowners have only been able to keep their hold on power because of heavy US economic support. This has been accompanied by lavish military aid; as well as giving weapons to the government's armed forces, the US is now taking over more and more of the actual conduct of the civil war.



Nuns attending Archbishop Romero after he was shot down at Mass.

WOMEN IN REVOLUTION

Though women are more than capable in the home, this is only one of many possible roles and not necessarily a natural one. The men of El Salvador are having this shown to them as women join with them in fighting for their freedom.

Women in El Salvador struggling for their national liberation are involved in an active and militant struggle for their liberation as a sex. El Salvador is a country that has been and still is ruled in the interests of US big business and the fourteen families and the rulers have staunchly maintained the *status quo* in which women are treated as second best.

- twice as many women as men are illiterate
- women are concentrated in domestic services, often starting at 12 or 13 and often suffering sexual abuse by the employing male family members
- women in agriculture and industry work in the same appalling conditions as men yet their pay is usually lower
- there is no provision for child-care
- women make up only one quarter of the university population.

And the list can continue to further illustrate the servitude that El Salvadoran women are forced into. It is not surprising then that they are participating so actively in the struggle for fundamental change in their country. They have a lot at stake.

Historically Salvadoran women have played a part in most of the major political struggles. In the 1920's they participated in the labour organising drives; in 1932, when a general insurrection was called, they played a role in communications, organising the community and education. In the 1940's a new wave of mass activity led to a huge strike in which women played the leading role, taking to the streets to protest the unfair economic conditions, the repression and lack of democracy in the country.

In 1968 the National Association of Salvadoran Educators (ANDES) made up of 80% women, organised a nationwide strike which rocked the nation. ANDES then went on to play a leading role in forming the Popular Revolutionary Bloc (BPR) in 1975, today the largest mass organisation in the Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR). The FDR is the umbrella organisation that unites all those in political opposition to the continuing line of repressive regimes and it has vast popular support.

Women are in the forefront, forming their own organisations, such as the Committee of Mothers of the Disappeared, who openly challenged the government's silence on the issue of political prisoners and brought world-wide attention to the torture and murder it perpetrates. The Association of Marketplace Women is another such group which represents the specific needs and demands of the myriad group of women who must confront difficult conditions out of economic necessity. In 1979 the Association of Salvadoran Women was formed which furthered the participation of women in the revolutionary struggle.

Today the Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation (FMLN), the military front of the Salvadoran people, has a very high proportion of women in it. The following brief profiles illustrate this new role Salvadoran women are assuming.

Ana Maria is second-in-command of the Popular Liberation Forces (FPL), who revived the armed struggle in the 1970's and is today the largest political-military organisation in the FMLN, as well as a member of the FMLN's Unified Revolutionary Directorate. She is an older woman who began her activity in the mass organisations and joined the political-military struggle many years ago armed with the knowledge gained from her work among the people. Today she has responsibilities in leadership, directing troops and training, and ensuring the preparation of the forces which today are dealing such strong blows to the government's armed forces.

Ana Guadalupe Martinez is a long-time leader of the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) and currently member of the FDR/FMLN's seven-person political-diplomatic commission, which undertakes international relations. While imprisoned by the government in the 1970's, she wrote the book *Clandestine Prisons* which received international recognition.

Maria Isabel is 24, is involved in the armed struggle and has been actively involved in one of the liberated zones. In an interview with a French correspondent in March 1982, she outlined some of her ideas on women in the revolutionary struggle.

by Marg McHugh

"The situation of women is still very difficult. But among the fighters one thing is beginning to be understood; there is a consciousness and increasingly widespread desire among the men themselves to fight against machismo, to not just consider us as helpers, subordinates or even sex objects. They are finally beginning to consider us as 'companeras' and the word 'macho' is starting to be used as a term of derision. That's symbolic, right?"

According to Maria Isabel, "More than 30% of the FMLN fighters are women, most of them being mothers." She continues, "In the liberated zones like this, there is an immense amount of educational work to do among the peasant women who are supporters of the struggle. It is very difficult to convince them that they must not limit themselves to their traditional role as women."

Maria Isabel has no doubt that "this is one of the biggest challenges of the Salvadoran revolution".

In El Salvador women are participating in every aspect of the struggle against their oppression — in meetings, armed detachments, unions, countryside, etc. They are participating as El Salvadorans and as women. By doing so they are ensuring that women's needs and demands are heard and met in the new El Salvador.



Poster says: "A pregnancy every two or three years is best for your health and that of your children."

Even Beneath This Bitterness

At the bottom of the night
the footsteps descend and retreat.
Shadows surround them
Streets, drunks, buildings.
Someone running away from himself.
A broken bottle, bleeding.
A widowed paper sailing around a corner.
A free thinker pissing on the grass,
where tomorrow the well-dressed children
will play beside the dew.

Far away something screams, dark metal, genital.
Asphalt and blind stones, sleeping air,
darkness, cold, police, cold, more police.
Streets, whores, drunks, buildings.
Police again, soldiers, again police.
The statistics say: for every 80,000 officers of the law
there is one doctor in Guatemala.

Then understand the misery of my country,
and my pain, and everyone's pain.

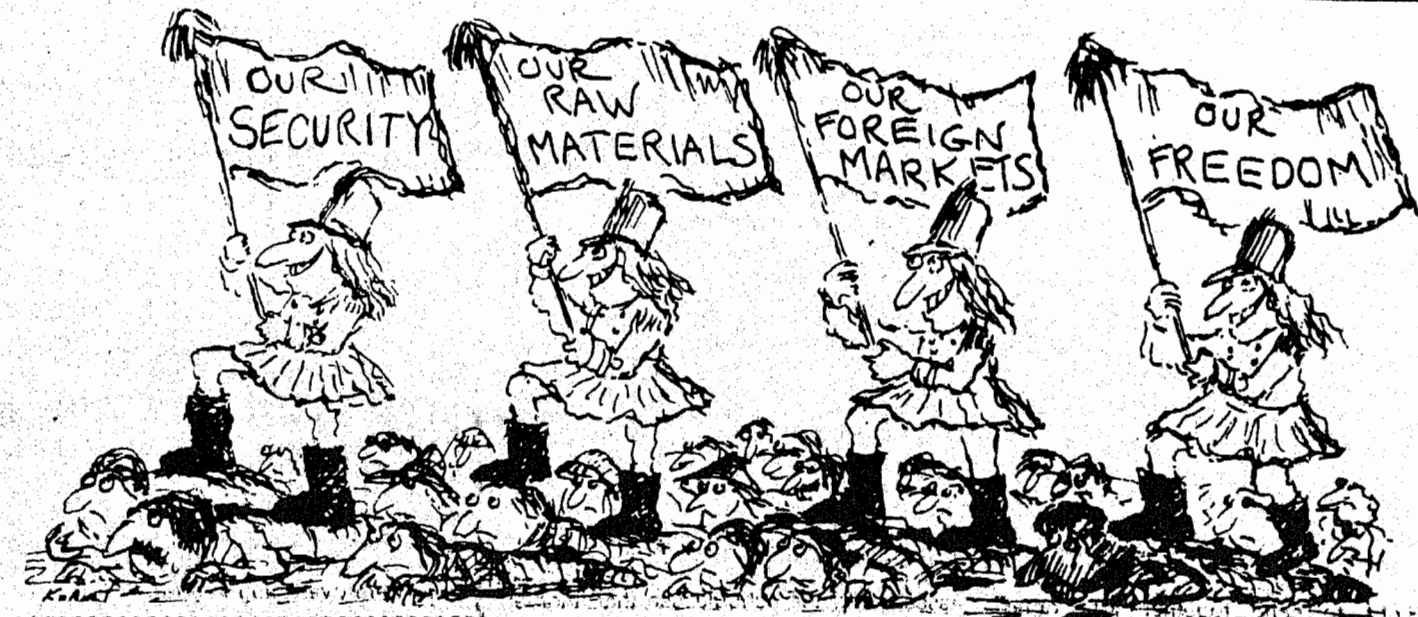
If when I say: bread! they say
Shut up!
And when I say: liberty! they say
Die!

But I don't shut up and I don't die.
I live
and fight, maddening
those who rule my country.

For if I live,
I fight,
and if I fight
I contribute to the dawn.
And so victory is born
Even in the bitterest hours.

— Otto Rene Castillo

Otto Rene Castillo, one of Guatemala's leading poets, was killed in 1967 while fighting with the guerrilla movement.



Defend the Right to Pursue Truth

Two weeks ago ROE BOGNER questioned whether democracy was alive and well on this campus. This week she expands and asks if academic freedom is being abused and tells us what to do if staff won't listen.

This article is not an attack on academic freedom. We need people capable of thinking freely and honestly if our society is to be capable of adapting to the new problems continually being thrown up. On a world scale, all societies must contribute to the efforts to solve the enormous problems presently facing our planet. The solutions to these problems involve innovative ideas. It follows that the right to innovate and criticize is essential, perhaps to the very survival of humankind.

In a world where commercial interests have enormous power and where government usually supports those interests, it is clear that if universities are to pursue knowledge with integrity, the preservation of the freedom of academics (and students) to search for, and to publish, the truth, is vital. As the council of this university has said, "In the preservation of intellectual standards the academic is often involved in a critical evaluation of many aspects of society and the freedom to make independent comments is essential for such evaluation".

That the power structures in our society, including within academic institutions, can and do act to suppress research and knowledge is very adequately documented in a paper by Brian Martin, "The Scientific Straightjacket" in *The Ecologist*, Jan./Feb. 1981. Martin explains, with horrific examples, that, at least in the science world, power structures exist which inhibit and prevent freedom of research and publication. To help prevent this, it is important that those scientists who expose attempts to suppress information, and those who publish controversial information, are given the utmost support and security in their work.

It is not difficult to imagine that academics in the non-scientific areas are also in need of protection when expressing views against the government, government departments, or even against the established *status quo* within the university.

The right to pursue truth must be defended vigorously by academics, students and all who care for the well-being of our world. What I am concerned with in this article is the abuse of "academic freedom" by academics who use the term as a guise for elitism, authoritarianism, laziness or intellectual dishonesty.

Students are people with few established vested interests. They are one of the last groups it would be reasonable to suspect of being part of a power structure wanting to suppress knowledge. As shown by professor Manwell in his recent series in *On dit*, academics have much more reason to suspect each other than to suspect students in this matter.

While academics should and must fight hard to preserve academic freedom, they only weaken their position when they use the concept to excuse and explain behaviour which has nothing to do with academic freedom or when they use the concept to deny or ignore legitimate arguments of students. The very existence of rights for some people implies rights to others. Since equality, justice and freedom are said to be the right of all in our society, it follows that the rights of some should not reduce or remove unequally the rights of others.

The maintenance of academic freedom does not need to include the right to refuse to heed the advice, criticism or arguments of other academics, students, or members of the community. A willingness to heed others should mean being willing to use reason in deciding whether change is desirable.

Rights of academics which should not be preserved include:

- (1) Right to refuse rights to others
- (2) Right to refuse to argue with intellectual integrity
- (3) Right to preserve ignorance
- (4) Right to refuse to consider that there may be more recent ideas than those they espouse
- (5) Right to make autocratic, arbitrary demands of students
- (6) Right to refuse to consider seriously the arguments of other members of the university community
- (7) Right to band together with other

academics behind the facade of "academic freedom" to refuse to consider the wants and needs of students

- (8) Right to say "I won't because I don't want to"
 - (9) Right to prevent change for emotional rather than logical reasons
 - (10) Right to have a monopoly over what knowledge is made available to our community
 - (11) Right to protect academic "dead wood"
- Positive rights for students should include:
- (1) The right to be given a fair presentation of important opposing views
 - (2) The right to criticize ignorance
 - (3) The right to be heard
 - (4) The right to have arguments met with intellectual integrity
 - (5) The right to have a fair say in what is to be studied and how it is to be studied
 - (6) The right of access to all areas of information, including university and departmental government. (Some areas should remain confidential by agreement.)
 - (7) The right to have influence in university government
 - (8) The right to be treated with respect, as equals.

Students are capable of making reasonable and wise suggestions to improve their university, and they are at least as capable as academic staff of taking the views of others into account when making decisions. If students are treated like "children", they are more likely to behave like "children". If they know that their wishes will not be listened to, there is little point in moderating them or in attempting to accommodate other points of view. Student leaders and participants in university government have, over the years, shown very mature attitudes in taking all points of view into account.

One important area in which some academic staff have refused to consider new areas of knowledge, is teaching methods. For example, some tutorial classes are rated by students as an absolute waste of time. Expert knowledge and assistance in improving tutorials is available right on campus from the Advisory Centre for University Education, ACUE, and yet the dreary tutorials continue, with staff saying that there is no solution. Teaching is a learned skill which can be taught. But, because of "academic freedom" staff have to be politely asked by the Vice-Chancellor if they would please go to ACUE courses. Some university teachers appear to be too proud to admit that they don't know everything. This is a rather paradoxical attitude to be held by people who profess to be pursuing knowledge.

When some members of staff of one department were interviewed by students who wished to know how their ideas could be taken into account in departmental decision making, the staff members said that it would not matter how good a case students made for a particularly change, it was up to individual staff members to choose to act as they saw fit. Other staff members, however much they might agree with the students, would not attempt to impose a change on another staff member, however wrong they thought him/her.

That this is indeed what does happen, at least in some departments of this university, was proved when students objected to an expensive, arbitrary and unusual demand made upon them by their lecturer. A reasoned case was argued with the lecturer, to no avail. A poll of students doing the course showed that they were unanimously against the demand, to no avail. Other departmental staff, although in agreement with the students that the demand was unreasonable and unnecessary, took the attitude that it was not their business.

The question of assessment methods is another area in which academics automatically fail to take account of both student opinion and of the University Council whose recommendation of four years ago have been quite widely ignored. In this impasse, students just have to put up with the arbitrarily imposed requirements of individual academics. At the very least, if academics persist in disagreeing with and disallowing the Report of the Committee on Assessment, they should see that another



report is prepared which takes their views into account as well as those of others, including students.

What can be done about all this?

The very best thing, of course, would be for academics themselves to put their own house in order, rather than have it imposed from outside, with the implicit danger that the vitally necessary academic freedom will be threatened in the process. But, given the attitudes of some staff, this is probably unlikely.

The best thing that students can do is "to be cruel to be kind". That is, students should co-operate together to let all students know when staff abuse their right to academic free-

dom. Some ways this can be done include:

- (1) Letters and articles in *On dit* discussing teaching methods and the quality of subjects and the curriculum — what areas of knowledge are being neglected and what are no longer relevant.
- (2) Working hard to produce a useful and fair *Counter Calendar*, so that incoming students can make informed choices. At present all advertising of courses is prepared by those who give them! Quality of tutorials could be covered here also.
- (3) Insisting on having student representatives on departmental committees. Seeing that the Students' Association continues to work on this. Setting up forums for all students within courses to keep representatives informed of student opinion.

UNION BUDGET PART 2 'Maximum acceptable fee is \$170'

Ah yes, mistakes have been made with the Union finances, says PHIL MARSHALL, Chair of Union Finance Committee. But the account books have been rounded up and from now on everything's just fine he says. Will the 1983 Union Fee be \$200? No, more like \$170, says Marshall. Wait and see when Union Council makes the decision on July 19.

After many hours of unpaid overtime by the Union accountant, Ian Withall, and the trials and tribulations of the back-room persons, it looks as if the 1983 Budget and hence fee, is coming together. If you're thinking that \$200 is seriously being "mooted", then you should come and talk to me sometime.

With inflation running at around 11% and last year's fee of \$152, in my view the maximum 'acceptable' fee this year is \$170. With the added fact that TEAS, the dole, and normal wages have not kept up with inflation, I believe Union Council must be prepared to set a fee more in line with the actual student income.

Since the change in the management structure of the Union earlier this year, councillors and staff have been able to get information more easily. In the past, with nothing written down, it was nearly impossible for councillors to get the figures on expenditure and income. The figures required to be available to set the fee.

In the past month, Union president Ken McAlpine, Andrew Frost (member of Union Council), Ian Withall and myself have been able to go through each line item of the Budget and check expenditure and wastage. We have come to the realisation that the past budgets have been somewhat 'fatty'. The fantastic surpluses of previous years have not so much been due to increased income or efficiency, but more the fact that many lines were over-budgeted for.

There is no point going into this in finer detail, but it is necessary to see Peter Maddern's article *The Union Accounts: \$200 Fee Mooted* (*On dit* 5/7/82) in light of the above points.

The unfortunate inference of Mr Maddern's article should be put to rest. You may have got the feeling the Union is about to close up for the rest of the year so that it stays afloat. This is nothing like the case. A turn around of \$57,000 in June has meant we are \$33,000 ahead for the year and will probably improve throughout the year.

The point that there is no provision for capital (tables, chairs, video equipment) in the 1982 budget is true. It is hard to believe that last year's Union Council, 1980-81, could have let this happen. Nevertheless, given that the capital expenditure to this date is \$33,000 and that the surplus is also \$33,000, we are covering costs. Capital for the rest of the year may well have to be clamped.

Although we have been through some major financial traumas in the last six months the Finance Committee have been able to assess the situation and start to make well informed decisions. All I can say is that I only hope Union Council takes heed of our proposals and acts in a responsible manner.

So, any talk of the fee being over \$170, let alone \$200, will certainly not be coming from the Chair of Finance, the Union President, Andrew Frost or any other "good" councillors.

Surviving in a White Man's



On the weekend of June 26th and 27th, Sarah Alpers attended a Land Rights and Justice Conference in Queensland hosted by Griffith University's Union of Students. Prior to this weekend her knowledge and understanding of Land Rights and the Aboriginal people's experience had been very limited.

I naively assumed that all Aborigines were politically aware, that they wanted Land Rights and were united in their methods for attaining them. My expectations then, of what would emerge from the conference, were neatly polarised: white Western experience against black Aboriginal experience; white English law against black law and custom; white administration against black self-management. I found that such distinct and specific confrontations, though in no way absent from the seminars and discussions of the conference, was overshadowed by the strength, humour and grace of the black people themselves.

On the Saturday afternoon a series of speakers related their individual experiences as Aborigines living in Australia today. These people represented a variety of Aboriginal groups ranging from those on reserves in North Queensland (i.e. Cherbourg and Hope-Vale) to urban blacks living in Brisbane. I listened with horror at the atrocities of degradation and humiliation suffered by some of these people, and I listened with wonder at their courage and dignity.

They have "survived the white man's world", seemingly against all odds in the face of ignorance, violence, negligence and assimilation, which have been the changing nature of government policy towards the black native people. Yet these speakers could still talk of telling their children to hold their heads high and of uniting "representatives of all us 'murries' together".

I observed over the weekend the germination of a strong Aboriginal political movement comprised of educated, articulate people intent on retaining their culture, their land and their identity. It is for this that justice is cried.

Land Rights

In 1982 the Aboriginal movement for land rights has become an issue of public importance due to the forthcoming Commonwealth Games and the resulting media attention. The move for land rights, however, has been a continuous and growing factor in

Australian life for the last two decades. It is based on Aboriginal determination to live better, more independent lives, free from the patronising oppression of government interference and control.

Ray Robinson from the National Aboriginal Conference Council, spoke at the Land Rights Conference and chastised the Queensland government for refusing to consider the legitimacy of Aboriginal land rights by not giving security of tenure, by not recognising sacred sites and by not allowing for Aboriginal self-management.

The Queensland government has said it opposes land rights because they may lead to apartheid. Yet there are fundamental and crucial differences between apartheid as practised in South Africa and the granting of land rights to Aborigines in Australia.

South African apartheid involves the forced removal of Africans from places where they have been living, often for many generations, to the most barren, non-productive areas of South Africa — the Bantustans. It is a physical separation initiated and reinforced by the white minority government. Aboriginal land rights in Australia stem from the desire of the Aboriginal people themselves to remain on their traditional land, to have full control over its use and enjoyment, and to receive compensation for land taken from them.

The attempt by the Queensland government to make apartheid and land rights synonymous is a deceiving rationale for denying the Aboriginal people their natural justice. Their claim for land rights in Queensland is for the security of ordinary freehold title to existing reserve lands (less than 2% of Queensland), for compensation to those who have been dispossessed of their land, and for total self-management. They are not asking for any special treatment or rights that other Queenslanders do not already enjoy.

It is ironic, however, that the Queensland government in denouncing apartheid, is the creator and upholder of laws that perpetuate racial division and white superiority. Joh

Bjelke-Peterson *et al.* (I have my doubts as to the need of *et al.*) have passed special laws for Aborigines who live on Aboriginal reserves.

The *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act* (1971) in effect states that Aborigines do not have the right to make decisions about their everyday living requirements. The Act gives an appointed white manager the power to make these decisions (i.e. how Aboriginal people can spend their money). Further, the Act determines that Aborigines cannot enter or leave the reserves at will, and blacks in the city must have special permission to visit family and friends on reserves. In acquiring freehold title to this land, Aborigines feel they will then have some autonomy and some economic, social and cultural security.

The Queensland government have responded to this desire by "legislating against land rights". They passed an amendment to the *Land Act (Aboriginal and Islander Land Grants)* (1962-1981) in April 1982 concerning the *Deed of Grant in Trust*. The deed as defined in the amendment is much less secure than the freehold, inalienable title given to Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory and here in South Australia. Under the amending Act, a deed of grant can be cancelled or changed at any time by the Governor in Council (effectively State parliament). Aboriginal councils

(trustees) must request written permission from the Minister of Lands to lease blocks of land to families or before allowing anyone to live on a reserve for more than one month. The Governor in Council can remove a trustee if it is in the public interest, and can appoint new trustees. Land at present held for public purposes (i.e. State department DAIA housing) might not be a part of the Deed of Grant. Aboriginal Councils have no power to refuse authority to those wishing to enter their land for mining or prospecting. Approval to do so rests solely with the Governor in Council. Residents and Aboriginal Councils have no timber or quarry rights.

All in all these amendments do little to ameliorate the present situation, assuming no further security of tenure and integrity of reserve boundaries. The Governor in Council it seems, retains unlimited discretion. A motion was passed at the conclusion of the *Land Rights and Justice Conference* condemning the *Deed of Grant in Trust* legislation.

A critic of this legislation is the former chairperson of the Yarrabah Reserve Council, Mr Percy Neal. His recent confrontation with the Queensland Criminal Justice System is further evidence of the discrimination apparent in Queensland law. Neal, an Aboriginal, was convicted in

This is your town
 These were my hills
 This is your town
 This was my place
 You came, with your white face.
 You came, and there was no place;
 Hills gone, camp gone, world gone
 No place.
 I walk in your streets.
 I walk in your town.
 Head hung down, eyes cast down,
 No face for me here, no race for me here, no place for me here,
 No place.
 Is there no white hand to take a black hand?
 Is there no place in my own land?
 Cry out to you now, sing out to you now,
 Is there no place here,
 No place?

(from *Ballad of Women*, Union Singers, Brisbane, 1964)

World

October 1981 of spitting at a white official of the Yarrabah community and was originally sentenced to two months' jail. He appealed to the Court of Criminal Appeal (Queensland) seeking a reduction in sentence, and the court increased the term to six months! On appeal to the High Court, his sentence was returned to two months (26/7/82) and the Queensland criminal justice system (notably the local magistrate and the Court of Criminal Appeal) came under repeated criticism from the bench.

To add insult to injury a white man was recently convicted in Brisbane of spitting in the face of a police woman. His sentence was a \$100 fine. Racism in the courts and police harassment are an everyday reality for a lot of Queensland Aborigines.

Speakers at the conference related first hand experiences of such discrimination and the Queensland prison statistics give further weight to this assertion. They reveal that although only 2% of the total population is black, Aborigines make up an average of 14% of the prison population and often up to 80% in country prisons.

The granting of land rights will benefit all Queenslanders in allowing Aborigines to reaffirm their traditional community values. From a secure communal base the Aboriginal people can then attempt to combat the problems they are now facing with alcoholism, homelessness, health, education and unemployment. In doing so they will be able to prevent the steady erosion of their culture and identity which has been a devastating consequence of British settlement in Australia.

Mr Justice E. Woodward in his report as Commissioner of the Aboriginal Land Rights Commission (NT) stated the fundamental assumptions that he believes underlie the recognition of Aboriginal land rights:

- "(1) the doing of simple justice to a people who have been deprived of their land without their consent and without compensation,
- (2) the promotion of social harmony and stability within the wider Australian community by removing, so far as possible, the legitimate causes of complaint of an important minority group within that community,
- (3) the provision of land holdings as a first essential for people who are economically depressed and who have at present no real opportunity of achieving a normal Australian standard of living,
- (4) the preservation, where possible, of the spiritual link with his own land which gives each Aboriginal his sense of identity and which lies at the heart of his spiritual beliefs, and
- (5) the maintenance and, perhaps, improvement of Australia's standing among the nations of the world by demonstrating fair treatment of an ethnic minority."

The Commonwealth Games

I believe one of the major achievements of the *Land Rights and Justice Conference* was to bring together a wide representation of

Queensland's Aboriginal people, allowing them an opportunity to voice their opinions on land rights, the legal situation of black people and proposals for protest at the Commonwealth Games. I began to realise the immense complexity of these topics and the confusion and frustration amongst the Aboriginal people themselves.

For example, criticism was voiced of the two delegations visiting in Africa: The Black Protest Committee delegates calling for a "boycott" of the Commonwealth Games and the National Aboriginal Conference delegation, accompanied by Gough Whitlam, calling "no boycott". A motion was passed by the black members of the conference expressing their dissatisfaction at both delegations' inadequate representation and lack of consultation with the Aboriginal community in Australia.

Differences of opinion are expected amongst concerned, motivated and politically aware people, yet as Gwen Deemal-Hall (Hope Vale) pointed out, large sections of the Aboriginal population are not even aware of the politics of their situation, including such issues as land rights. It is to counter this that Cheryl Buchanan (Brisbane) strongly asserted that the Aboriginal people need a national representative body that can speak for them "with one voice".

It was decided that another conference of black people only from all over Australia was needed to provide a forum for discussion and debate in an attempt to solve their differences, educate their people and so become united in aim and method.

The Black Protest Committee has initiated a campaign to call on support for peaceful protests during the Commonwealth Games. Members of the committee stress their desire to keep their dissent within peaceful, non-violent parameters. They aim to capture the

attention of the international media to the problem of blacks in Queensland and Australia by organising a cultural Aboriginal festival for the duration of the Games. Because Griffith University will be used as an accommodation venue for athletes during the Games (due to its proximity to the main game venue, the QEII Stadium), all students must vacate their campus from September 13th to October 22nd, and can only enter with special accreditation. The Griffith Uni. Union of Students has a very active land rights support group which is endeavouring to get their University Council's approval to use their Student Union as a base for black protest.

I doubt very much whether such accreditation of entry will be given, particularly in light of the Queensland government's passing of the *Commonwealth Games Act* (April and May 1982). The Act is a strong indicator of the government's desire to quell any protest whatsoever.

Tom O'Gorman, President of the Council for Civil Liberties who addressed the conference, described the *Commonwealth Games Act* as a mere skeleton of the laws for September. The flesh and substance of the Act will be filled in by regulations and orders in Council made pursuant to the very wide powers granted under the Act. An example of such vague and broad drafting is Section 12. It originally read *inter alia*: "a person shall not, in or near a notified area, do any act or omission which may endanger, obstruct or hinder any person".

The Council for Civil Liberties lobbied the government and Liberal party politicians for a removal of the phrase "or near" which has been known to extend to ten kilometers. Their request was acceded to and S.12 was amended as follows: "a person shall not, in or in the vicinity of a notified area, do any act..." (a dubious victory!).

Section 16 contains the most serious "catch all" wording stating that it is an offence to be "within a notified area in possession of anything declared to be a prohibited thing".

Nowhere in the Act do the definitions of "notified area" or "prohibited thing" appear. When the Council for Civil Liberties asked the State Police Minister, Mr Hinze, for further clarification, he replied that these definitions will be outlined in regulations made under the Act.

Penalties of two years in goal or \$2,000 are imposed on those people selling anything whatsoever within one kilometer of a notified area without written consent of the Commissioner (S.18), and also for failing to give name and address to a policeman if suspected of having committed, actually committing or about to commit an offence against the Act (S.19).

The Council for Civil Liberties questions the necessity of such vague and potentially suppressive laws. They believe that the existing laws in Queensland provide adequate security for the hosting of the Commonwealth Games, e.g. those laws embodied in the Criminal Code Act, Police Act, Firearms and Dangerous Weapons Act and Traffic Act.

The Council contends therefore that the *Commonwealth Games Act* is clearly aimed at prohibiting any sort of peaceful protest — be it a demonstration or the wearing of a Land Rights badge. The Act is a threat to civil liberties which includes, as a fundamental right in a "democratic, free-thinking" society, the right to engage in non-violent, non-disruptive protest.

The Police Minister's reluctance to publish the regulations seems to be an attempt to delay any opposition before the Games start, thus making very difficult any adequate remonstrance. The Civil Liberties Council has called on the Minister to publish the regulations immediately, not a week before the Games, so that the public can know the true nature and extent of the police powers.

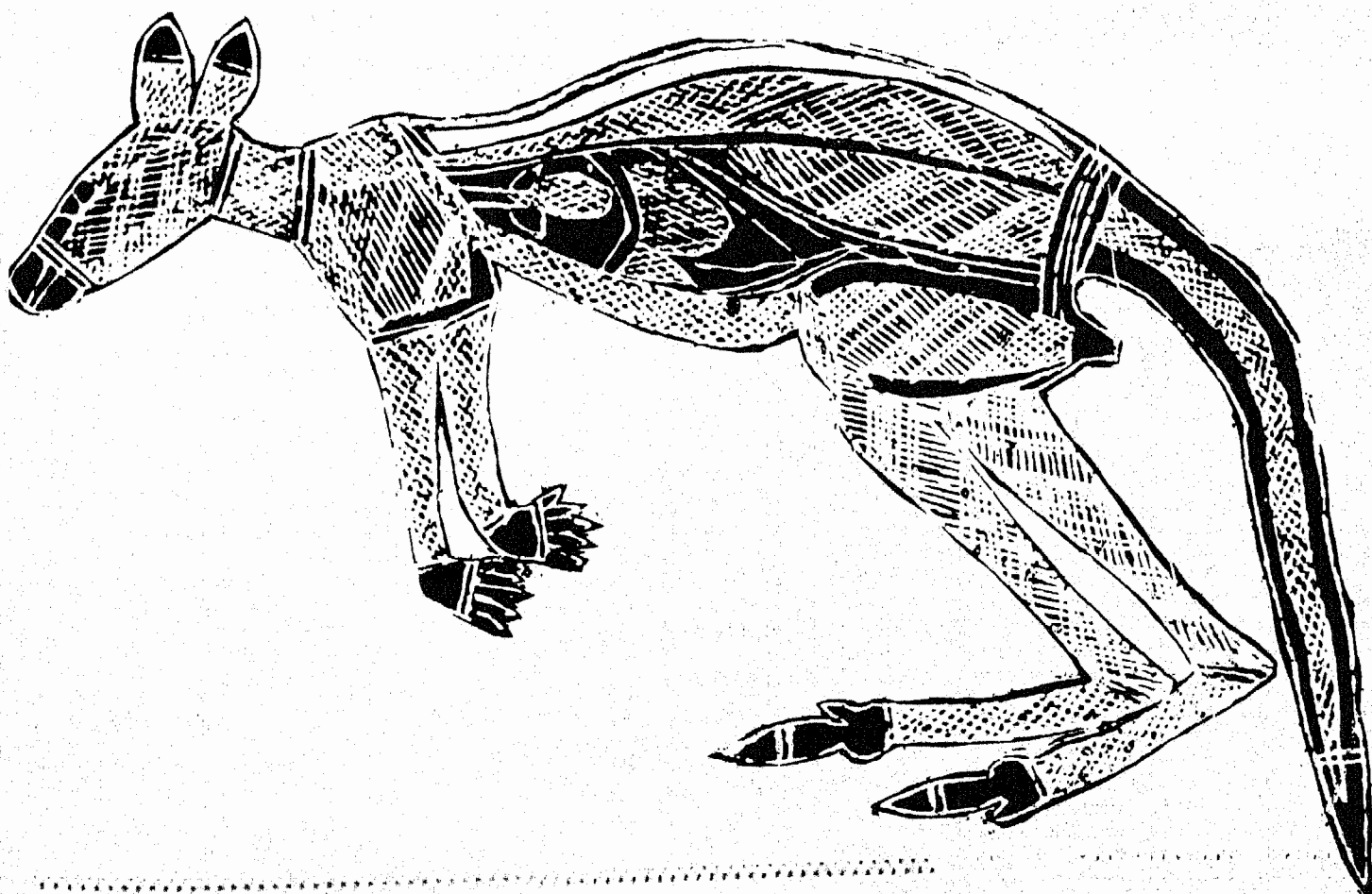
Conclusion

The *Land Rights and Justice Conference* has made me aware of the seriousness and scope of the Aboriginal situation, of their own need and desire for political unity and of their strength and determination to see justice done.

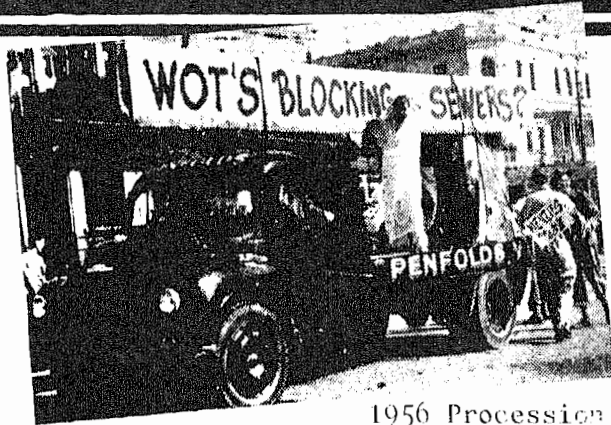
What responsibilities do we as non-Aboriginal Australians have? I believe they are: to be aware of and condemn any form of racism, be it blatant or subtle in our society, to realise the need of Aboriginal people to have a unified national body that will truly represent their views, to support these people in their quest for land rights and self-determination, and to remain awake to the problems of a people struggling for recognition and survival.

To quote Xavier Herbert, author of *Poor Fellow My Country* and a guest speaker at the conference:

"Until we give back to the blackman just a bit of the land that was his, and give it without provisos, without strings to snatch it back, without anything but complete generosity of spirit in concession for the evil we have done him — until we do that, we shall remain what we have always been so far, a people without integrity, not a nation, but a community of thieves."



Past Prosh Days Revisited



1956 Procession



1981-Prof. Stranks signs the independence

This year's Prosh Activities in the last week of term will return to the traditional image it had in the heyday of student stuntism in the 1950s and 1960s.

The Prosh Procession, once a fixture on the university calendar, will return. It was a traffic stopping event that attracted crowds of onlookers to view its display of undergraduate humour.

The star Prosh stunts of the past have a similarly legendary character.

One year a car body was winched from Victoria Drive to the middle of the Torrens where it was strung beneath the footbridge.

The best stunts have inevitably involved disruption in the city. Hoards of white mice were released in city department stores. It got to the stage where gangs of students posing as roadworkers and digging up footpaths were getting *passee*. The council and the police were on the lookout for them.

One star stuntist hit upon the obvious solution. On Prosh Day the police were

telephoned and told that a gang of council workers digging up a road were really students. The city council was telephoned and told that a posse of students posing as police would shortly try to disrupt the roadworkers. Legend has it that the confrontation was memorable.

In the 1970s the quality of Prosh steadily declined. 1979 was the culmination of the decade long trend. Prosh was abandoned and festivities were banned.

The revival came in 1980. The *On dit* editors of that year, Geoff Hanmer and Andrew Fagan, published a Prosh Rag and organised a Grabathon. The day's highlight was a professionally executed bus hijack from beside the Children's Hospital. The hijackers drove it to Kintore Avenue before they were blocked and the driver booked by the police. He was later fined.

In 1981 Prosh was more ambitious again. The university, with Vice-Chancellor Don Stranks at the head, seceded from the

Commonwealth and became the Torrens River Province. On dit's editors Paul Hunt and James Williamson played a prominent part in the revolution and produced the Prosh Rag titled *The Voice of the Revolution*.

The activities in Prosh Week of 1981 raised \$6,300 for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

So, considering these highlights of the past, it is fitting that Prosh in 1982 should revive a few Prosh traditions.

The Procession will be held on Thursday afternoon August 5. Some floats for this event are already being constructed.

The Procession will begin at the Victoria Drive gate and wend its way through the city and back down King William Road to the university. On the Thursday a Prosh 'Royal Show' will be staged on the Barr Smith Lawns to pre-empt the real event a few weeks later.

The Prosh Movie Marathon will be held from Thursday through to Friday morning in the Union Cinema. *Superman II*, *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, *Caligula* and *Flash Gordon* will be screened.

The Prosh Breakfast, an early morning feast of arcaneness, will be held on Friday.

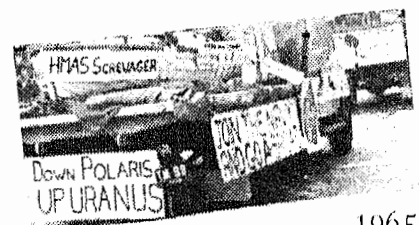
On Friday evening the Prosh Show will be held in the Mayo Refectory.

The Saturday evening event is a complete return to the past. A *Brideshead Revisited* Ball will be staged by students in Marble Hall in the Adelaide Railway Station. Marble Hall was used for the ball scene in the film *Gallipoli*.

The Prosh Rag will be published on

Monday August 2. It will be sold on and off campus. People who want to sell the rag should leave their name at the *On dit* office.

Prosh is mainly about raising money for charity. This year the beneficiaries will be the Aboriginal Community College and Youthlink. The Aboriginal College will receive the bulk of the funds. The aim is to raise at least \$5,000 which will finance the college's move to new premises in Largs Bay. Youthlink will receive the proceeds of the Movie Marathon (see stories on page 20).

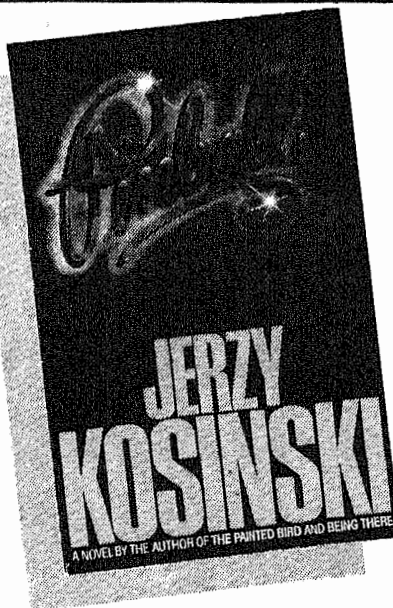


1965



1947-General Ironmongery wows the crowd

Books



Flat Characters, Orgasms, and Violence

Pinball
by Jerzy Kosinski
Bantam
\$7.95 rrp

Pinball has an intriguing storyline as bait for the possible purchaser. Goddard, the greatest rock star ever, has amassed a fortune and commands a huge audience but nobody knows his identity. Andrea offers Domostroy money and her body in return for finding Goddard. Domostroy, a brilliant musician who now lacks any creative urge and survives by playing in a cheap nightclub cum pinball joint, accepts.

Part of the interest, therefore, lies with discovering Domostroy's methods, who Goddard is, whether he will be found and what happens if and when this occurs.

We are also treated to some amusing comment on modern American idiosyncrasies through Domostroy's encounters with National Know How, the National Vasectomy Club, Angel the beautician and Candy pants — not forgetting Vala's mood undies.

There is some comment on differences in organization between America and totalitarian states and the music industry's effect on America — particularly disco and rock. There is irony in Goddard's popular based rock, music's financial support of Etude, the company specialising in elite classical music. Inequalities in the division of wealth and the problems of the black community are touched upon. Kosinski takes us through the drugs, violence and sexual perversion which coexist with the "uniformity of social posturing and artificiality of sexual posturing" in America. There are references to topical points of interest such as Jack Abbot, the criminal-genius, and later, to the plagiarist who sent a copy of an admired work to publishers only to have it rejected. Kosinski depicts a society and its publishers continuing to accept uniformity and mediocrity in art.

He emphasises the estranging effect of success, its fleeting nature and the danger it attracts. Goddard glories in his invisibility; it is necessary for his creativity, privacy and safety. However, it forces him to adopt a colourless, ineffectual personality in his private life. A momentary relaxation, curiosity, egotism and loneliness may leave him vulnerable. It is ironic that the man who understands his music best sees him as a proponent of meaningless music whose only asset is his invisibility.

Domostroy who has never been able to separate his life from his music, is now as "aimless as the path of a steel ball in a pinball machine". He accepts a safe, self-centred, predictable life. Very much a character of the eighties, Domostroy allows himself to be used. The dangers of such a position are soon obvious.

Goddard and Domostroy are interesting. The novel is well planned and satirical with "suspense, action and excitement". However, it is still somewhat disappointing. Kosinski introduces many ideas but does not fully develop them. His attention to sexual detail is quite boring. Some of the characters barely fall short of caricature. Donna is described as a black, gifted Chopinist (which for some reason seems to arouse amazement), a sexually demanding "gazelle" with "big tits" (?) who tries to "bridge the sexual distance" with a well endowed Marcello in front of an audience, and performs a sexual *pas de deux* with Domostroy at the piano. Kosinski's wit, ideas, intelligence and precision are overshadowed by a lack of depth, unoriginal comments on trendy subjects, and pandering to a public taste for neat mysteries with flat characters, orgasms, hype, violence and a couple of clever laughs along the way.

— Delyse Bartholomeusz

THE BEST TV

Monday July 12

ADS 7
9.30pm Seiko Women's Tennis
SAS 10
8.35pm Movie: *Kill Me If You Can*.
A bit suspect but it has Alan Alda in it so who knows.

Wednesday July 14

ABS 2
7.30pm Towards 2000
8.00pm The World We Share is about the humpback whale
10.10pm Cosmos is on the backbone of the

night — the Milky Way

Thursday July 15

ABS 2
8.55pm *Spring and Fall*
ADS 7
8.30pm The beginning of a serialisation of John Steinbeck's book, *The East of Eden*

Friday July 16

ADS 7
12 midday. Movie: *Wuthering Heights*.
The 1939 version with Laurence Olivier and David Niven.
8.30pm Movie: *Sunday Too Far Away*.

STUDENT RADIO

Student Radio, July 12-16

10pm - 1 am, 5UV on 531

MONDAY

10.15: Enrico Honduras will be on if he makes it back from heez siesta in Acapulco. Reviewing Duran Duran's new album, *Rio and Snuff!*
10.30: Pres. P.K. has his say
Three doubles to see *Neighbours*, Union Hall.
Music with Mark Reid, Tony Hurren and Michael Hosking.

TUESDAY

10.30: Mark Storer interviews Fifi L'amour — musical cabaret act, recently performed in the Adelaide Uni. Bar.
Three doubles to see *Evil Under the Sun*, Union Hall.
Music with Mark Storer and Tony Ennis.

WEDNESDAY

10.30: Kate Thomas reports on the Leonardo da Vinci exhibition at the Art Gallery of South Australia.
Nick X. film reviews.
Music with Alex Wheaton and Paul Duldig.

THURSDAY

11.00: Vincent Wong has his say.
11.30: Colonel Cash's Audioscopic Jukebox.
Music with Margaret Nixon.

FRIDAY

Requests with Christine Hawkins.

NEXT WEEK

Mark Reid and Peter Mares look at both sides of the Roxby Downs issue.

THEATRE GUILD PRODUCTION Not for the Faint Hearted



The Devils
Directed by Peter Goers
Little Theatre
9 - 24 July

Based on Aldous Huxley's novel, *The Devils of Loudun*, the third Guild production for 1982, John Whiting's *The Devils* is spectacular to say the least.

It is a play dealing with sexual repression and frustration amongst men and women of religious vocation, how such repression turns to obsession and how it leads to their eventual downfall. It comes to the profound conclusion that sex and religion is a lethal combination. This frustration is seen in an order of nuns led by Sister Jeanne, who becomes obsessed with Father Grandier, a basically good man who yields easily to the "temptations of the flesh".

Anna Pike, playing Sister Jeanne, was excellent, handling the role with sensitivity and conviction as well as managing some wonderfully varied voices for her "resident devils". Likewise, Malcolm Calder presented a highly commendable performance of Urbain Grandier as an intelligent but misled priest, led to destruction by his passions.

The play, and especially the first act, appeared as a series of loosely connected scenarios without real sequence. Whilst confusing, this was also an advantage since there was no time for boredom — one was continuously confronted with a wide range of characters and settings, such as the colourful Sewerman (Bill

James) suddenly appearing from out of a trapdoor, or, for black comic relief, the chemist and surgeon Adam and Mannoury (Mike Page and John Tann) triumphing over a head that they procured for ninepence — "a bargain!"

The climax of the play comes with the exorcism scene. It is stunning in the true sense of the word. The performances given by the "possessed" nuns is, without exception, extremely credible and suitably grotesque and must be very difficult to do in front of a live audience seated inches away. Rose Clemente was particularly chilling as one of the hysterical nuns.

John Whiting is a very powerful writer and some of the speeches in *The Devils* are beautifully written, such as the touching scene in Act Two when Grandier is relating to the Sewerman his presence at an old man's death. It is also a well structured play, maintaining interest throughout with a clever use of the tension-relaxation technique, tragic scenes following comic.

The play is set entirely around an effective colour scheme of red, white and black. Costumes were a juxtaposition of past and present, somewhat alarming at times, yet refreshing at others such as Peter Usher as a resplendent, bejewelled Prince Henri de Cande, bearing a distinct resemblance to Frank N. Funtler of *Rocky Horror* fame.

I cannot give a clear, overall view of the play; some parts were great, others not so. I felt that the visual brilliance of *The Devils* detracted from it the full serious impact that Whiting intended in the script. It is, however, definitely worth seeing for sensational special effects (including very skilful lighting and sound) and some fine acting even from relatively minor parts. A final word of warning however: *The Devils* is definitely not for minors or people who are easily offended.

— Eirean James

Down & Out Reassessed

Down and Out in Paris

Adelaide Uni. Theatre Organization
Season finished

In 1927 the young George Orwell left the Burma police and returned to England to live with his *declassé* family. In early 1928 he moved to Paris and rented a room in the 6 Rue du Pot de Fer in the shabby fifth arrondissement. He eked out a subsistence from freelance writing.

What followed is something of a mystery. Orwell said that his money was stolen and he was forced to live on the edge of starvation with the poorest inhabitants of Paris. We do know that in February 1929 he contracted pneumonia and was in a paupers' hospital for several weeks. For ten weeks late in 1929 he was a dishwasher in a restaurant. Borrowing enough money to return to London, he spent the next couple of years living on and off as a tramp and itinerant labourer. He completed *Down and Out in Paris and London* in October 1930 but it was not published until January 1933.

P. Stansky and W. Abrahams in their two-volume biography of Orwell, said that the manuscript was written with "an exhilaration, vivacity and naturalness ... which explain better than its sociological content its continuing life into the present". Henry Miller regarded it as Orwell's finest book.

If I could roll all my objections to AUTO's stage adaptation of the Paris part of the book into a single observation, it would be that no one connected with the play liked George Orwell.

Apparently the original script, by Lachlan Colquhoun and Simon Robb, was dominated by Orwell (Alan Upton) pacing the stage, propounding his theories and holding the action together with his muscular narrative as in the book. But for some reason the cast found this unsatisfactory and during rehearsals they "workshopped" most of the Orwell out of the play.

Instead, in experimental theatre style, the play opens with the whole cast asleep on the floor, dressed in rags. The groans and mutterings of their nightmares rise to a shouting crescendo; a drum beats; they all stagger upright in panic. This extraneous and irritating material studs the play and is meant to convey the desperation, insecurity and resignation of poverty.

In between this editorialising from the cast, we find some of the hard, clean anecdotes and lively vignettes of the original. Colin McKerie is an appropriate Boris and the characters of Jules and Orwell are enjoyably portrayed. But the original story is sometimes unrecognisable and the meaning and much of the charm lost.

One example will suffice. Orwell describes a man called Furex who is a communist in everyday life but a ranting nationalist when drunk. On Saturday night after a liberal number of drinks he leaps on to a chair and recalls the glorious days of the Great War, denouncing all foreigners as spies. He displays his war wound to the other drinkers and sings the 'Marseillaise'. At this point two strong workers pin him to his chair while everyone in the *bistro* shouts "Long live Germany" until he turns purple with rage and collapses into a stupor. In the morning he reappears, quiet and civil, and buys a copy of the communist newspaper *L'Humanité*.

In the play the crowd join in Furex's rendition of the 'Marseillaise' and we are left with the insipid message that patriotism is a sop for the down-and-out.

What the cast feels for Orwell the man is made clearer in the final scene. As he lectures on our fear of the poor, telling us to go home and consider our own position, a servant arrives with a silver tea service on a traymobile. Orwell sips his tea, lights a cigarette, stretches and paces the stage. Mendacious assumptions are made about his background and his tourist status in the slums. In real life his family were too poor to support him, and he returned to London to lead the life of a tramp. The question of his true motives is an arid one; he chose to confront poverty and document it. Nor was this the straitened circumstances of the TEAS cheque, but poverty, itinerant and hungry.

We must ask what it is about Orwell which the AUTO cast reacted so strongly against. We have as a starting-point his historical importance; he was a Socialist so ruthlessly honest that he discredited much of the Left. Is it simple dislike of Orwell's later anti-communism? Or is it more like embarrassment at the spectacle of a middle-class boy harrowing himself with the unpleasantness of poverty? Orwell chose to take an unflinching look at the poverty of his time, and if this is offensive to our tastes we must indeed go home and consider our own position.

— Giles Tanner
Mick Atkinson

Cabaret Theatre At the Warehouse



the Warehouse

(39a Rundle St, Kent Town)

The Warehouse, that home of exhilarating and lively cabaret theatre, is hitting hard times.

"Winter in the Theatre," says Bill Rough (self confessed acting administrator and crazed entrepreneur) "brings out the worst side of everybody, and most people are keeping their worst sides at home and not coming out to the Warehouse, where it's always warm on Wednesdays."

The Warehouse, at 39A Rundle Street, Kent Town, throws open its doors to one and all and presents "Warm Winter Nights at the Warehouse". (If you can manage to say all that in one breath, you'll be all right!) The *Fabulous Hot Boys* get going at around 8 pm, for a night's dancing and general fun. A mere

two dollars will get you in and with reasonably low-priced drinks, it's the cheapest winter heating in town (beats sitting by the Vulcan strip heater dreaming of a sun drenched beach).

The Warehouse has a number of coming attractions. *The Great Rubber Ducky Caper* gets underway on Saturday 17th July at 2 pm and will run for three consecutive Saturdays. Bill Rough is also planning to start a Hot Talent Quiz game show, and is seeking new cabaret talent in Adelaide, from "amateur maniacs to polished singers".

The Warehouse is also looking at a script from Sydney called *Hormones* — a cabaret style play about a transvestite revue company operating in a Kings Cross nightclub — written by James Mellar and involving Sydney and Adelaide's most outrageous performers.

In the meantime, fingers are crossed that *The Warehouse* survives. The State Government Arts Grants Advisory Committee pays the rent — but the continued existence of the theatre still depends heavily on people rolling up. So, next Wednesday, grab your tap shoes, get someone to babysit the Vulcan (or, better still, bring it too) and head to *The Warehouse*.

— Karen O'Keefe

THE LAW REVUE Has It's Ups and Downs

McMillhouse and Wife
The Law Revue

Union Hall

July 8 - 17

Macbeth, McDonalds and a myriad of other targets came in for scrutiny in the latest Law Revue, *McMillhouse and Wife* which is playing at Union Hall at the moment. In fact the only subject which they were not able to see the funny (and macabre) side of, was themselves. This was a pity, because it could have been a much cleverer show.

By delicately changing Shakespeare's words, the script started as a real Uni. revue, witty and clever. The star, McMillhouse, was to hear his future and throughout the night this prediction was to be proven correct.

Highlights of the show included the *Backwards Sketch*. Lines must be difficult to remember in a show such as this, but to do everything backwards (including do everything backwards) is a real test. The audience particularly liked the telephone sequence and for me the sketch showed real professionalism. The *Stereo Sketch* was

also very clever, showing just how talented these people are. The revue's version of *My Way, My Weight* was another highlight.

Favourite players in the show for me were Catherine Fargher and Francis Greenslade. Catherine played Margaret Thatcher in one of her appearances and was so good that Pamela Stevenson could learn a lesson. As anticipated the Falklands/Malvinas came in for a stir or two in the witch's brew; no doubt UK censorship would not have allowed one sentence of her sketch on to the BBC. (The band was named *Stanley Malvinas and the Jump Jets*, and despite this played well.)

Francis Greenslade was the most versatile performer of the night, playing, amongst other characters, a coy personnel manager, a bizarre gameshow commentator and the ill-fated Bernie.

Amongst these highlights was much satire which did not go down well at this largely, or so we were told, complementary audience. The line that to tell the difference between George and Peter Duncan you must remember that one is dragging the river clean and the other is a

drag queen, was met with hostility from their fans.

Anne Wills was another local who copped it in a below the belt manner. And yes, Lindy Chamberlain was done yet again. The Karen Quinlan sketch was met with mixed reactions also — surely such a theme is not impossible to send up without such cheapness. The reaction to the frozen pre-natal foods idea was as icy as the idea.

There is much, much more, of course — Shaun Micallef has perfected his funny walk and Charles Abbot clutches a blue plastic penis ...

First night mix-ups did not deter the players; in fact they were able to play on them and it made the whole show more spontaneous. The profits of the show are funding a new lighting system, but I would be tempted to wait until any potential slander suits are settled!

So the show had its ups and downs. Perhaps much of this humour is designed to be met with such mixed reactions but I for one would have preferred more wit in the lines and, less of the cheap, shots. ...

— Melanie Little

coming up

Les Trios Ringbarkos, Melbourne's craziest comedy duo, will be appearing for the Literary Society in the Union Bar this Saturday night, July 17.

Los Trios will present their now famous brand of comic nervousness and audience beating for the first time since their Festival appearance at the Fringe Club. Their show is a mix of physical violence, neuroses, heckler baiting and playing accordion under the influence of glue.

Supporting **Los Trios** will be **Die Dancing Bears** with their typically ... shall we say, unusual show, and **Detente** to get the audience dancing.

This mixture of outrageous comedy and outrageous music will cost a miniscule \$2.50 for students and 3.50 for others.

— James Williamson

Hit 'n' Run Energy Connection

Theatre 62
143 Burbridge Road, Hilton
July 10 - 31

Hit 'n' Run, the current production of the Dance Theatre Company Connection, opened on July 10 at Theatre 62.

This may be Energy Connection's last production as a non-professional company. The Adelaide theatre world is alive with rumours that Energy Connection may receive the funding it deserves and become Australia's first professional youth performing arts company.

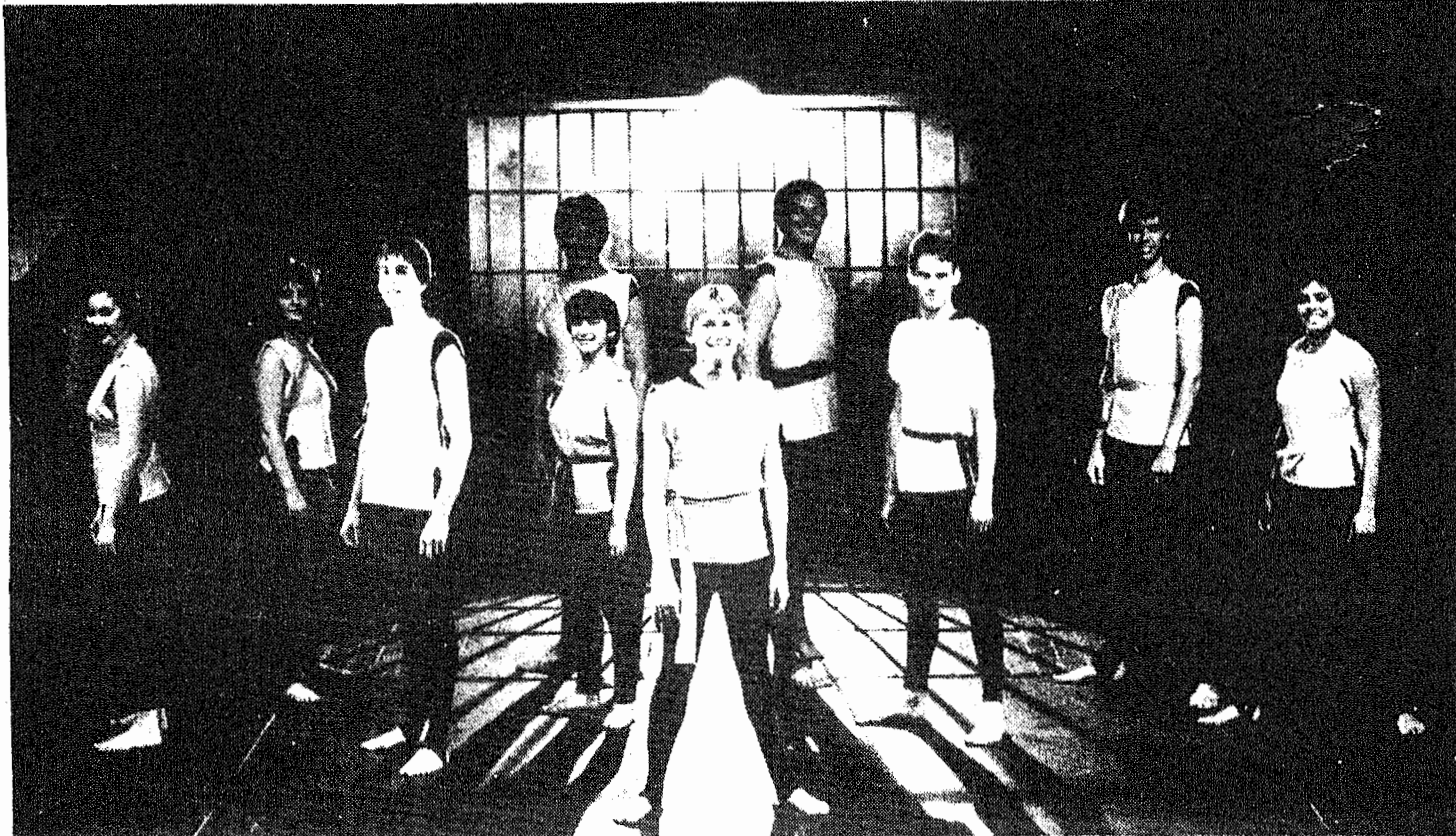
And youth is the operative word. The company consists of ten performers aged from 18 to 23. It grew out of an experimental drama course at Morialta High School. When the participants left school they felt a vacuum existed and pressured their teachers to form a company. The school's drama teachers, Gale Edwards and Russell Staiff, now work full-time for Energy Connection. The rest of the company subsist as best they can, many on the generosity of the Department of Social Security.

The youth of Energy Connection has meant that some of their productions have lacked sophistication and maturity of concept but critics both in Adelaide and interstate have applauded the company's energy and vitality as well as the professional craftsmanship of their productions.

Since 1981 Energy Connection has staged four well received productions. One of these was *Hit 'n' Run*. The others were *Icarus*, an adaptation of the Greek myth of exalted ambition and its tragic consequences; *Ripples*, Energy Connection's contribution to the Festival Fringe, and most recently, *Beelzebub*, an adaptation of Golding's *The Lord of the Flies*.

Energy Connection calls itself an "ensemble" which means that it is a community of performers with a strong group identity. Ideas for performances are generated by the group, often over a bottle of red wine. They are not imposed on the company by a script or a choreographer as in conventional theatre.

This type of theatre is called "devised theatre" and draws on the philosophy and writings of the well known English director, Peter Brook. It is also common in both university and school drama courses. Energy Connection finds that many young performers are attracted to the ensemble



ENERGY CONNECTION PRESENTS HIT 'N' RUN the game is to survive

approach and that they get a great deal of interest from classically trained NIDA graduates.

This form of theatre requires a real dedication to the art form. Energy Connection aims to put the magic back into theatre, to bring to theatre "a refreshing spontaneity, an artistic accessibility and a life force which lingers with audiences long after the performance has finished".

As well as attracting young performers,

Energy Connection attracts a youthful audience. "We know we can touch and excite the youth of Australia." *Ripples* was seen by 3,500 people during the last Festival of Arts. Energy Connection discovered that their best audience for *Ripples* was tertiary students. There was something in the political and social comment of the production that appealed to university students, says Russell Staiff.

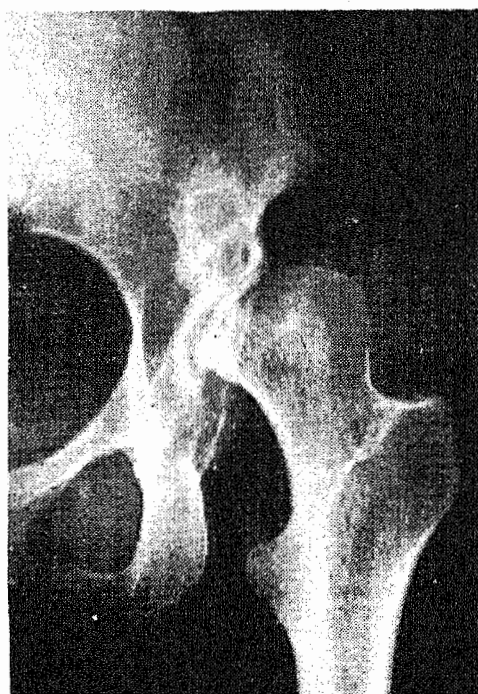
The company is gradually aging (and

maturing). Although it still has workshops in schools, Energy Connection no longer has ties with school children. The aging of the company and its development will be an issue it will have to face at the end of the year, especially in the light of its youth tag.

The current production, *Hit 'n' Run* grew out of an earlier production in 1981 called *Street Blues in Space*. It is based on observation of life in Adelaide's Hindley Street and photographs of Hindley Street are used in the sets. Members of the company went to Hindley Street, observed its characters and talked to its people — strippers, spruikers, etc. The production shows twelve people in the city environment where the game is to survive. It shows the sense of pessimism and defeat, the "hollowness in people's eyes". The set is like an arena where the twelve characters present their lives in monologue and then disappear.

Hit 'n' Run is on at Theatre 62 until July 31.

— Sarah Dinning



A Colour Atlas of Clinical Orthopaedics by Lipmann Kessel Wolfe 1980

\$55.00 rrp, Hard back

Confucius did say that a picture is better than lots of words and that's the idea behind the many Wolfe colour atlases on the market today. Orthopaedics is a very visual speciality, most of its concerns being readily communicated by photographs. Nevertheless the use of colour, though attractive, is not obligatory in 90% of the pictures published here and as a result this book is considerably overpriced.

Its value is in familiarizing the student with the presentation of orthopaedic disease so that when exposed to it in real life one is not overwhelmed by the deformity that presents and is able to think clearly about the underlying disease.

The book is a curious pot-pourri of clinical slides, x-rays, histological specimens and slides of examination, operation and various other procedures. This is accompanied by a brief text that mentions many helpful points but never consistently covers any topic thoroughly. Principles of examination of the joints are touched on but never gone through in great detail.

This book is only an expensive picture book and in no way would it be useful as an introductory text — it leaves too many gaps. Nevertheless the photographic coverage given of many important orthopaedic conditions will provide a quick way of visually familiarizing oneself with a range of disease, that previously would have only been seen over the course of a good many years.

— Andrew Fagan

MEDICAL TEXTS

Outline of Orthopaedics by J. Crawford Adams Churchill Livingstone 9th ed., 1981

496 pp, \$23.25, rrp, Paperback

Outline of Fractures by J. Crawford Adams Churchill Livingstone 7th ed., 1978

320 pp, \$20.33, Paperback

Students of orthopaedics seeking a textbook are very fortunate to have a choice between two excellent authors, Crawford Adams (the author of the two books under review) and another Briton, A.G. Apley (author of *A System of Orthopaedics*, \$60.00). Their books are superb examples of teaching in a clear consistent logical manner. Whether this is due in particular to the authors, or to the speciality itself, I have yet to discover.

Crawford Adams' books are distinguished by their organization of overall chapters, beginning with a summary of conditions to be discussed, the summary being arranged according to a consistent 'surgical sieve' that is easily committed to memory.

Adams' prose, however, is not as logical as Apley's who mentions all positive and negative features of a constantly repeated examination routine. Adams omits a discussion of the differential diagnosis of conditions — something which Apley gives. Apart from this, the information conveyed by the two authors is comparable differing only in the way it is arranged. Adams however doesn't include some obscure conditions mentioned by Apley, i.e. 'periostitis' and some of the rarer bone tumours. Both authors are equally generous with supporting diagrams and photographs.

Both books give an overall view of treatment without entering into much technical detail. Adams' description of plaster application is fuller than that of Apley, although neither discuss the issue in great detail.

In summary, these books are the cheapest option available. They are well organized and readable with good illustrations. However their text leaves gaps in attempting to be brief and as a result does not achieve the consistency of Apley.

— Andrew Fagan

Antibacterial Drugs Today by A.P. Ball, S.A. Gray, S.McC. Murdoch

ADIS Press, 1978, 2nd ed.
\$10.00 rrp, 163 pp, paperback

For those aspiring to a basic understanding of the place of antibiotics in treatment of disease, Doug Hardy's *Guidelines for Anti Microbial Agents* (handed out to all 4th year med. students) is about all you need.

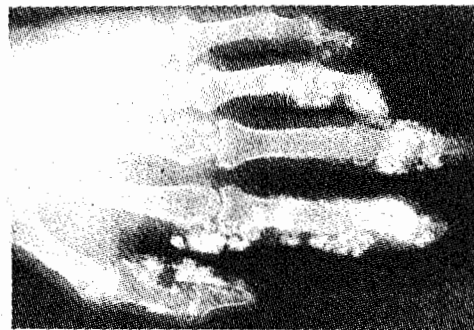
However for a price that must be considered cheap for medical texts — Ball *et al.* do offer an extra amount

of information that is at least useful. Like Garrod *et al.* (also reviewed here) their discussion is initially of the pharmacology of antibiotics, followed by their use in various settings of infectious disease. They are brief, sticking mainly to factors of clinical relevance (like plasma half-lives and spectra of activity) omitting some of the chemical information about each drug which Garrod *et al.* include.

Apart from its four years of age and its lack of spine (my copy has a brittle binding and the pages fall out) this book has much to commend it such as cheapness and its succinctness. Should you already possess a copy of Lawrence's *Chemical Pharmacology*, you will find the information in there is not as comprehensive as that presented in this book.

For anyone wanting a reasonable grasp of the pharmacology of antibiotics this book is a reasonable buy.

— Andrew Fagan



X Ray Diagnosis by P. Armstrong, M.L. Wastie Blackwell, 1981, 1st ed.

344 pp, \$57.25 rrp, hard back

Distinctive due to its concise and well ordered text, this book is comparable in size to many of the older texts such as Squire's *Fundamentals of Radiology*, Simon's *X Ray Diagnosis for Clinical Studies* and Storch's *Fundamental Aids in Roentgen Diagnosis*. They are all hard back and expensive.

Armstrong *et al.* differ from their predecessors, however, by cutting down on much of the technical detail concerning radiography (the physics, the projections, etc.) and concentrating on a diagnostic approach, limiting their discussion to normal radiographic anatomy, and radiographic signs of pathology.

Their prose is, on the whole, sparser and much easier to digest. A very generous number of radiographs are included, highlighted by some very neat accompanying diagrams — which are another distinctive feature of this book. There is only a very brief reference to ultrasound, computerized tomography and nuclear medicine.

The chapter on bones does not attempt to cover the full range of orthopaedic injuries that are known. For this information one is referred to texts of orthopaedics. Rather, basic principles of

observation are taught in brief (with plenty of supporting radiographs) that are applicable to all x-rays of fractures and other skeletal pathology.

Some may find this rather overpriced for an introductory text — yet the sad thing is that none of the cheaper introductory texts do the job nearly as well. Sutton's *Radiology for Med. Students* and Troupin's *Diagnostic Radiology in Clinical Medicine* have as many gaps as a set of pro-pubertal dentures.

Armstrong and Wastie have, in my opinion, produced an elegant presentation of radiology for the student. Though expensive, it will provide a lifetime service for the non-specialist.

Most students, however, will not have the finances to justify such an outlay for a subject that is not greatly stressed in undergraduate examinations. The Barr Smith Library is well stocked with five or six introductory radiology texts, and if one of these is referred to occasionally it will probably prove sufficient.

— Andrew Fagan

Antibiotic and Chemotherapy by L.P. Garrod, H.P. Lambert and F.O'Grady

Churchill Livingstone 1981
5th Ed. \$51.80 rrp
514 pp. Hard back

These authors tackle the awesome task of condensing the vicissitudes of modern microbiology into comprehensible prose with an enviable singleness of purpose.

Their book is now twenty years and five editions old and the career of at least one of the authors, L.P. Garrod (now dead) spans the history of microbiology itself. In spite of this they have retained an ability to ruthlessly weed out information as it becomes obsolete. This, combined with a clear understanding of new developments, has helped them achieve an authoritative reference text in only a moderate sized volume.

Their discussion of the sulphonamides, an historic but largely obsolete family, is completed in a concise twelve pages. Their approach is not simplistic but is closely tied to research findings. They busily collate information from reference after reference, rapidly building up a coherent picture of a drug in succinct paragraphs.

The first half of the book discusses antibiotics family by family dealing with the pharmacology and therapeutic effectiveness of each member. Chemical structures are illustrated, well referenced tables of organism susceptibility are given and each chapter is completed with a table summarizing the different preparations available and their appropriate dosages. This coverage contrasts markedly with the terse summaries of antibiotic pharmacology found in general texts such as *Avery's Drug Treatment* or *Lawrence's Clinical Pharmacology*.

The second half is concerned with the rational use of antibiotics in the varieties of infectious disease. The results are not always conclusive, but the discussion is purposeful and attempts are made to recommend appropriate regimes of treatment.

At \$51.80, no one in their right mind would prescribe this as compulsory reading for the medical undergraduate. However, antibiotic use is not always as well understood as it might be and this book goes further than any I know in addressing that weakness.

— Andrew Fagan

HIT 'n' RUN!

Theatre 62
July 10-31

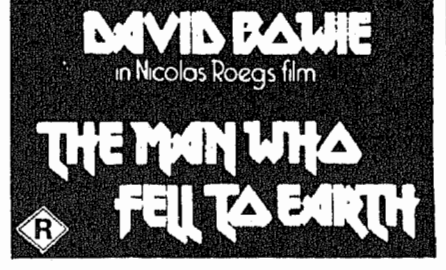
BASS 8PM WED-SAT. STUDENTS \$3.00

MAGILL RD. MOVIE HOUSE
407 Magill Rd., Ph: 31 1907

LATE SHOWS

THIS FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11.45 pm
(June 16, 17)
SPECIAL OFFER

PRESENT THIS AD AT THE BOX-OFFICE TO ADMIT TWO for \$4.00



Bowie Tickets

Late night sci-fi! This Friday and Saturday at 11.45pm the Magill Road Moviehouse presents David Bowie who is *The Man Who Fell to Earth*. Directed by Nicholas (Bad Timing) Roeg, the film's enigmatic title refers to an extra-terrestrial (played by Bowie) who comes to our planet from a 'distant galaxy' desperately seeking a water supply for his people. The rest of the plot is too difficult to describe but suffice it to say that ... *Fell to Earth* is never boring, always energetic and has some great sci-fi effects. And David Bowie can even act!
Ten double passes are available now from the Student Activities Office.

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY
UNION FILMS
PRESENT
THE CHEAPEST, LATEST
RELEASE MOVIES IN TOWN
Tues July 14 12.10pm

JOHN BELUSHI
DAN AYKROYD
in
Neighbors
A Comic-Nightmare

Wed July 15 12.10pm



UNION HALL
\$2 GP \$1FILM MEMBERS

The Amazing Existential Wombat . . .

DEAR CAT SEEMS TO
HAVE LOST WEIGHT
ALL OF A SUDDEN

Wow?

THAT IS NO CAT, DR. WOMSTEIN. RATHER IT IS
A "CUTE ARTIFACT OF TRANCE", A DRUG-
INDUCED HALLUCINATION CALLED GRAHAM.

AND WHILE DR. WOMSTEIN GIVES "THE HAIRY NOSE" ITS
20 000 PARSEC SERVICE, HERB DOES A 2000KM FREEFALL
PARACHUTE JUMP TO THE SURFACE OF MARSUPIA

EPISODE VIII

MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW
MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW
MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW ME
OW MEOW MEOW -prrrt!

GRAHAM the C.A.T.

I THINK I'LL GO HOME
NOW GUYS ... IT'S
BEEN PRO-COOL ...

LEAVING BEHIND
A CLOCKWORK
KARL SAYAGAIN
TO DIRECT HERB
TO EARTH, 'SMILEY' TAKES
HIS LEAVE ...

GERONIMO,
AS IT WERE.

Acrostics contrived ridiculously
often say things intentionally
concealed ...

Eventually nascent
nausea upsets integrity

THIS ... COULD ... BE ... A ... GOOD
... THING, OR ...

Foonk!

HERB LANDS IN THE
BACKYARD OF HIS OLD
HOME ...

OH LOOK, WALTER,
IT'S HERB. WOULD
YOU LIKE A CUP
OF TEA, DEAR?

LIKE A
CHOP,
HERB?

EDITORIAL ENDNOTE REGARDING CUTE ARTIFACTS OF TRANCE
(CATS) : NOWHERE IN THE UNIVERSE DO CATS ACTUALLY
EXIST, ALL CATS ARE IN FACT "DRUG-INDUCED HALLUCIN-
ATIONS" (THOUGH NOT NECESSARILY CALLED GRAHAM). THE
ATMOSPHERE OF SOME PLANETS IS SUCH THAT IT INDUCES A
MASS HALLUCINATION WHERE THE ENTIRE SENTIENT POPULAT-
ION BELIEVES THERE ARE REALLY SUCH THINGS BY CATS.

PROSH '82

Can Make the Difference

Adelaide University students' commitment of Prosh Week proceeds to help the Aboriginal Community College to move to Largs Bay may be decisive.

The college principal, Mr Ken Petrie, says that "if we get sufficient money from Prosh then that money alone could make the difference between us moving or not".

The college has been trying since early 1981 to move from its cramped quarters in North Adelaide to the much more spacious building and grounds at Largs Bay, being offered by the Sisters of St Joseph who formerly ran an orphanage on the site. However, opposition from the Port Adelaide Council on planning grounds, saw the case taken first to the Planning Appeals Board and then to the Supreme Court, which ruled in the college's favour in April this year.

Having won the legal battle to move, the college has now found that it cannot raise the money. The Commonwealth Government, which funds the college through the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, will not support the move because the college is expected to be moving to a disused primary school in Port Adelaide in 1984.

However the students themselves and the

eleven person all-Aboriginal controlling council of the college, are "very keen" to move to Largs Bay now, according to Mr Petrie.

Apart from the vast improvement in space, cheaper rental and better facilities, the legal victory (over the Port Council) is seen as very important by the Aboriginal community, and the feeling is that it should be put into effect, Mr Petrie said.

The college has approached "various church agencies" seeking funds, and Mr Petrie said that the Sisters of St Joseph (who have already lost more than a year and a half's rental on the Largs Bay site) were "continuing to be very patient and supportive".

The college estimates that it needs \$10,600 to cover the move to Largs Bay, but Mr Petrie reiterated that \$5,000 would probably move the college at this stage of the year.

Last year about \$6,000 was raised during Prosh for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Mr Petrie said that the college's council was "very pleased" to hear of the Prosh commitment, and his own reaction was "the whole thing's terrific".

— David Mortimer
Mark Davis



David Anderson and friends visited the Aboriginal Community College on its recent Open Day.

Why have a separate college for Aborigines? Why can't Aborigines come to the conventional institutions for their education?

On dit spoke to the principal of the Aboriginal Community College, Ken Petrie, about the aims and educational philosophy of the college and put these questions to him.

The Community College exists, he said, because the educational needs of Aborigines are not being catered for by the conventional education system. In theory Aborigines have equal access to education but because of the nature of the education system they are, in effect, denied this access.

Petrie outlined features of Australia's education system which work against Aborigines in this way.

"Schools are often of a poorer quality in the non-urban areas where many Aborigines live. Teachers are almost exclusively white people and so Aboriginal kids in schools are generally being taught by people of a different culture who have almost no understanding whatsoever of Aboriginal culture, or Aboriginal notions about what education is for — but at the same time they have their own ideas about education, of course, which they impose upon the kids.

"In an urban situation where Aboriginal children share a classroom with white children they're obviously in a minority and they're often treated without any real understanding of what their educational problems are. Frequently they're treated with some derision — there's a great deal of social difficulty suffered by Aboriginal children amongst their white 'peers'.

"As a result of these problems Aboriginal kids achieve very poorly and there's an enormous drop-out rate in secondary school.

"Another problem is that Aboriginal urban people seem to have developed a fairly low opinion of themselves — precisely echoing, in fact, the opinion that the white community has of them. They've learnt to look at themselves as people of a lower achievement order, of lower social worth and probably even to a certain degree, of lower moral worth.

"That's not a conscious thing, but it's been a gradual erosion of their dignity through contact with white people and with white people's attitudes."

The result of these problems, Petrie said, is that there are many Aborigines who, at an adult age, feel that they would like to make good some of the education which has been denied them in the past.

This desire to make up an educational

vacuum is one of the educational needs of Aborigines that the Community College is able to meet. The college is equipped in a way other educational institutions are not, to meet these needs.

The aim, therefore, is not always to bring students to a certain secondary or tertiary standard, or to duplicate the programmes offered by the conventional education system.

"The College doesn't fit with any clarity into the conventional notions of secondary standard because what we do is to try to help people identify just what it is they mean by education when they say that's what they want — where they want to get to and whether we can help them, how long it might take to achieve a certain goal.

"For some people this means basic literacy. Other people who come here have already completed four years of secondary schooling and so are obviously after a different thing.

"Some come seeking help to pursue a particular vocational direction.

"Others, and this is another area entirely, are people who want to find out what being an Aboriginal is all about. Many people have grown up on the fringe, as it were, of Aboriginality; they've been fostered out to white families perhaps, and come here in order to find an Aboriginal identity — which may seem a rather glib phrase but is one which has whole repercussions of meaning which are different for different people.

"So apart from more formal schooling there's this area of educating our students about Aboriginality. This can mean lots of things — it can mean identifying oneself as an Aboriginal and learning to cope with being an Aboriginal in a generally white society, or it can mean beginning to explore for the first time traditional Aboriginal culture."

The Aboriginal Community College is unique in that it is the only completely Aboriginal-controlled educational institution in Australia. The college is managed by a Council made up of eleven Aboriginal people.

In addition to this formal control, the college constantly receives feedback and input from the local Aboriginal community. Such feedback influences the courses taught by the college and enables the college to ensure that it provides an education that meets the needs of the Aboriginal people.

"The Aboriginal community regard this college in a very real sense as belonging to them, and it's only because of that regard that we've survived," Petrie said.



CHRONOLOGY

September 1980: The Sisters of the Order of St Joseph offer their Largs Bay orphanage to the Aboriginal Community College.

December 1980: The orphanage closes down.

April 1981: Aboriginal Community College applies to Port Adelaide Council for approval to move to Largs Bay.

August 1981: Port Council refuses approval, citing planning grounds.

September 1981: Aboriginal Community College appeals against Council's decision to the Planning Appeals Board.

December 1981: Planning Appeals Board hearing.

January 1982: Planning Appeals Board directs Port Council to approve the College move. Three days after the Planning Appeals Board decision a fire is lit in the orphanage building and causes \$40,000 damage.

February 1982: Port Council lodges an application for a Supreme Court appeal against the Planning Appeals Board decision.

April 1982: Supreme Court dismisses the Council's appeal application, clearing the way for the Aboriginal Community College to move to Largs Bay.

and will
also help

YOUTHLINK

The profits from the Prosh Movie Marathon will benefit Youthlink. The marathon begins at 10.30 pm on Thursday August 5 in the Union Cinema, Level 5 Union Building. *Superman Two*, *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, *Caligula* and *Flash Gordon* will be screened in that order. Refreshments will be sold in the foyer. Get along to support Youthlink.

The Youthlink telephone counselling number is 352 7866.

Youthlink is a "youth to youth", non-judgemental, telephone counselling and information service operating between 7 and 11 pm nightly to help the Charlie Browns of the world when Shoop's not around.

Rapid physical and sexual development, together with an increased desire for independence, adult status, peer relationships and separate identity combine to make youth a critical stage of development. High youth unemployment does not make this situation any easier.

By ringing Youthline, young people can speak to someone their own age (counsellors are aged primarily between 18 and 25), air their problems, or find out information.

Common problems are girl-boyfriend hassles, sexual difficulties and information, unemployment, peer relationships, information on clubs and interest groups, and sometimes just plain loneliness. Young people often feel more at ease talking to

someone their own age, and it often, too, helps parents to talk with other young people.

At a time when government outbacks are resulting in other youth services decreasing in number and value, the need for Youthlink is even more important. As a voluntary organization, Youthlink is meeting youth needs and hopes to continue to do so. About fifty volunteers are involved, doing phone shifts, administrative work, training new volunteers, raising funds, writing newsletters, coordinating information and advertising the organization.

Youthlink phones have been operating for just over one year now, but its history goes back much further. The establishment of Youthlink has only resulted from a long struggle by dedicated volunteers. Initial funding was obtained from the YMCA and Free Masons. Now, Youthlink is entering its second year of operation and the need for ongoing financial support and volunteer enthusiasm is essential.

I have been involved with Youthlink for just over one year. I've learnt many counselling and administrative skills. If you would like to hear more about Youthlink, get newsletters and/or get involved in some aspect of the organization, fill in the form below and become a member. Or just phone Youthlink (352 7866) and tell them you're interested.

— Sharon Holmes

Name: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Phone No. (home) _____ (work) _____
I enclose \$5.00 for membership fees.
Post to:
Youthlink
PO Box 82
Torrensville
SA 5031